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Gukesh and Ding play Game 7 today

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BJP meeting likely to elect Maharashtra CM tomorrow

Snehal Mutha
Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
MUMBAI

With the swearing-in of a new Mahayuti government in Maharashtra to be held on Thursday, Caretaker Chief Minister and Shiv Sena chief Eknath Shinde is recovering from illness and his party is yet to decide on a Deputy Chief Minister.

The BJP appointed Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani as central observers for a meeting of its MLAs-elect who will elect the legislature party leader and the Chief Whip of the party at a meeting in Vidhan Bhavan here on Wednesday.

On Monday evening, Nationalist Congress Party leader Ajit Pawar reached Delhi.

CONTINUED ON
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Logjam ends; Parliament to debate Constitution

At meeting called by Speaker, ruling side agrees to allow certain controversial topics to be raised during Zero Hour; Congress decides not to cause any disruption over Adani indictment issue

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

In a breakthrough to end the logjam that had paralysed the Winter Session of Parliament, the government and the Opposition reached a consensus on holding a discussion on the Constitution in both Houses. The Lok Sabha will hold the discussion on December 13 and 14 and the Rajya Sabha on December 16 and 17.

The ruling side agreed to allow certain issues such as the Bangladesh situation and the violence in Sambhal to be raised during Zero Hour, but did not accede to any discussion on the Adani indictment.

The main Opposition party, the Congress, decided not to disrupt Parliament over the Adani issue, but it will hold a protest outside the Makar Dwar of the Parliament complex at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday.

Major breakthrough: Floor leaders of various parties at a meeting at the chamber of the Speaker in Parliament on Monday. ANI

Before the protest, at a meeting of INDIA bloc leaders, the Congress will ask other parties to join the demonstration, sources said.

The breakthrough came at a meeting of floor leaders of all parties called by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, where the government conceded to the demand for holding a discussion on the Constitution. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi had made the demand in separate letters to Rajya Sabha Chairperson Jagdeep Dhankhar and Mr. Birla, respectively, last week.

"The Lok Sabha Speaker met with floor leaders of all the parties. Everybody expressed their frustration on Parliament not functioning. Everybody was of the view that it was not appropriate to waste people's money. The Opposition also put forward their demand, there was a proposal in Business Advisory Committee to have discussion on the Constitution, the government has agreed to it," Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju told presspersons.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12
BOTH HOUSES STALLED
» PAGE 13

II PU exam from March 1, SSLC exam from March 20

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The first annual exam for II pre-university courses will be held from March 1 to 19, 2025, and the SSLC exam will be held from March 20 to April 2 for the academic year 2024-25.

The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board announced the tentative timetable of the first annual examination-2025 for the two classes on December 2.

The SSLC examination will be conducted from 10 a.m. to 1.15 p.m., and the II PU exam from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The board has given 15 days' time to submit objections to the timetable. Students and parents can submit their objections by December 16 through email to chairpersonkseab@gmail.com, or directly to the board.

TIMETABLE ON
» PAGE 5

NEARBY

Cyclone Fengal: Bengaluru sees flooded roads

BENGALURU

Incessant rain lashing the city under the impact of cyclone Fengal resulted in the flooding of multiple roads on Monday. Till 5.30 p.m., Bengaluru city received 14.2 mm, while HAL Airport and KIA received 16.6 mm and 4.3 mm of rainfall respectively. » Page 4

BJP issues show-cause notice to Yatnal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a bid to end the internal tussle in the BJP State unit, the party's Central Disciplinary Committee cracked the whip on Sunday by issuing a show-cause notice to "rebel" leader Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal who has been attacking veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa and his son B.Y. Vijayendra, who is also the party State president.

Mr. Yatnal has been given a 10-day deadline to show cause as to why disciplinary action should not be taken against him.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 6

We have superstars and money, but badminton as a sport hasn't grown

There is no professionalism and the way the system and the federation is being run, we missed the bus; some part of a coach was always there in me and even as a player, I was always helping out my colleagues; our structure also has to get better; we were capable of a lot more, hopefully we wake up now and push hard

FILE PHOTO: NAGARA GOPAL

INTERVIEW

Parupalli Kashyap

Uthra Ganesan
LUCKNOW

A two-time winner at the Syed Modi India International Super 300, one of only two players to do so, Parupalli Kashyap knows the city and the tournament as well as anyone can. He has also seen the fan frenzy for the biggest stars at the BBD Academy, being the recipient of it more than once. A bonafide star in his playing days, with a career-high ranking of sixth in the world, Kashyap was known for being outspoken both in praise and criticism. Back in the city as a coach this time, the 38-year-old was as vocal about the stagnation in Indian badminton and the way ahead, in an exclusive chat with *The Hindu*:

On his ward Shriyanshi's loss

A little disappointed because she didn't capitalise on the conditions in the third game. She was quite brilliant and she is still coming up, so quarterfinals was a good show. She was better than her opponent, reading the conditions also well but maybe there were some jitters. Self-belief has to improve but it will come, winning a few quarters and semifinal matches will help. It looks very positive, she is one of the good stroke players and has powerful smashes. Sometimes you need to dumb down the game a little and in moments when you take lead and put pressure on the opponent, she faltered in those.

His second innings as a coach

I think some part of a coach was always there in me. Even as a player, I was always helping out my colleagues like Srikanth, R.M.V. Guru Sai Dutt, Sameer Verma or H.S. Prannoy, the entire batch. Even with Saina (Nehwal). I was always interacting with them and discussing ideas on how to play rallies or how to improve the game, so I guess I am very much in my comfort zone as a coach.

The change in the Indian badminton scene over the years

It's quite disappointing actually. There are so many superstars in the sport but the sport itself hasn't grown. It's still the same. Players are coming up, there is so much talent, there has been an exponential rise in the number of players and academies, tournament participation has increased but the money and the magnanimity in the sport hasn't grown.

In Lucknow, when I played semifinals against Tommy Sugiarto or Viktor Axelsen, the stadium used to be packed. I don't know why. Just the broadcast, the PBL not happening for so many years, somewhere we have faltered and it's quite disappointing. Our structure also has to get better. We were capable of a lot more, hopefully

> I would go so far as to say that a few individuals are doing all the groundwork. We have reached great levels because a few individuals were crazy

we wake up now and push hard.

What has gone wrong?

I am a part of the system and I don't want to sound very pessimistic but it should have been a lot more. Badminton should have been the No. 2 sport after cricket. The players are also making good money, the entire ecosystem has grown since 2010-11 after the Commonwealth Games onwards, the hype was so big and we all became stars. But there is no professionalism.

I feel the way the system and the federation is being run, we missed the bus. People like P. Gopichand sir are still producing players and we will keep doing it but for the sport to grow, there are a lot of other factors and people in charge have to do more.

So money in sport does not equal professionalism?

There needs to be a system which needs to be run, there is a long-term plan which needs to be put in place. Look at kabaddi's growth, where are we in comparison? It's very much possible, just the right minds are in place and the right things are done. That's not the case now.

Does bringing former players like yourself into the coaching system help inspire the next generation?

It does but frankly, inspiration or passion I feel is an overrated word. Passion dies if you don't see progress. Right now I am very passionate, I have just quit playing and I want to make the next five world beaters from India, make India dominate world badminton, the josh is there – but I don't know how long it will last if I don't see any incentive to continue. It is quite disappointing and frankly embarrassing that you say an Indian coach will be paid 50k or 1 lakh when you go and hire foreigners for 10-15 lakhs. Maybe we didn't have too many top players earlier but now we do.

I have been in the top-10 for four years, Guru has been in top-20. Sumeeth Reddy is an Olympian, Manu Attri an Olympian and top-20 in the world, Sai Praneeth is working somewhere in the US. Why are we even looking at people from outside? I want others like Srikanth and Prannoy to play as long as they can but what after five years? They are not as passionate about coaching but if it is lucrative, it makes sense, it is made rewarding enough, then they will also feel they want to contribute. How long can only passion sustain?

How do you see the next generation performing?

Lakshay is, of course, there, Priyanshu is very talented, Kiran George obviously, of the others in the Indian circuit Rithvik Sanjeevi is very good, Tarun Mannepalli is there, Mithun Manjunath has just faltered a little but can pick up. I think the talent is there but the structure is not.

I would go so far as to say that a few individuals are doing all the groundwork. We have reached great levels because a few individuals were crazy. Those who have been there and done that, unfortunately they are not having absolute liberty to structure it properly. There was Prakash sir, there is Gopi sir who has literally produced medallists and after that, among the former top-10 players there is me and another 1-2. But if we have to turn out champions as a factory, hard decisions have to be taken and qualified professionals have to be in charge. In most places in the world it's largely coach centric, whether China, Korea or Japan. Here it is more player centric.

Conference of Indian Orthopaedic Association begins

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Orthopaedic Association is hosting the 69th annual conference of the Indian Orthopaedic Association -IOACON 2024 in Bengaluru. The conference began on Monday and it will go on till December 7 at Bengaluru palace.

With the theme 'Enhancing Skills - Optimising Care', the conference is being conducted in the city after a gap of 16 years, said H.S. Chandrashekar, chairperson of the conference Organising Committee.

"As a part of the conference, a postgraduate training programme is being organised at Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute. As part of the conference, 17 workshops are being conducted on Tuesday at different hospitals in Bengaluru," he said.

Various workshops

"While cadaveric workshops are being conducted at Ramaiah Advanced Learning Centre and St. John's Medical College, live surgery workshops are being conducted at Bangalore Medical College, Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma and Orthopaedics and Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health. Other workshops are being conducted at Bengaluru palace," the doctor said.

The main conference that will start on December 5 at Bengaluru palace will comprise postgraduate presentations, didactic lectures, and interactive sessions, where experts in the field of orthopaedics will share, deliberate, discuss and collaborate on the recent advancements and latest technologies, he said.

As part of the conference, a road safety awareness week began on Sunday. This public awareness initiative is aimed at educating the general population about the importance of road safety, which will contribute to preventing road traffic accidents, a major cause of mortality.

A 5K walkathon is also being organised on December 5 at Bengaluru palace as a part of road safety awareness, he added.

Digitisation of built-up areas begins to streamline property tax collection

This will help identify undervalued properties under the civic body's Self Assessment Scheme

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), which has already digitised around 22 lakh properties, has started the digitisation of built-up areas with an aim to streamline property tax collection.

The digitisation will help identify undervalued properties under the civic body's Self Assessment Scheme (SAS).

Speaking to *The Hindu*, BBMP Special Commissioner (Revenue), Munish Moudgil, said: "We have digitised 4 lakh out of 20 lakh built-up areas. Drone shots are used to collect information about the actual built-up areas. Additionally, revenue teams are physically visiting the sites to mark properties using GPS. The GPS data is also used for the e-khata system."

A view of apartments at Varthur on the outskirts of Bengaluru.
K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Through digitisation, the civic body has found that 60% of the properties have been undervalued. The property owners will receive notices.

On the other hand, the BBMP is also integrating property tax back-end data with the sale deed. The integration has multiple benefits including those who do not have khata but are paying property tax. For instance, if a person has been paying tax but does not have a manual khata for the property when he applies for e-khata afresh, the system will know that he has paid tax. Also if the owner had under-evaluated the size of the plot while paying tax, the same will be flagged.

The owners, who do not have khata, can apply for a fresh e-khata after the BBMP launches a new website for this category. The current system under which people are downloading e-khata is for the section of property owners who have manual khata in their name.

The Special Commissioner said that digitisation and integration process, if streamlined in the next two or three years, will help BBMP earn ₹10,000 crore through property tax collection.

A crackdown on defaulters will begin next week as only 2.3 lakh of 4 lakh defaulters have utilised the One-Time Settlement (OTS) scheme. The BBMP has already issued property attachment notices to 89,000 defaulters who have not paid the tax for three years or more. Residential properties will be auctioned and non-residential properties sealed in case of failure of payment.

Police launch event to counter sexual harassment in public

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In an effort to create awareness against sexual harassment in public places, Durga Foundation, a city-based NGO, in collaboration with the NLSIU and city police, launched the 'active bystanders initiative' to help the victims of sexual harassment.

As part of the programme, under the banner " D.A.R.E. TO CARE: Say no to sexual harassment," a team of Durga Foundation visits public places in 112 police stations across the city to create awareness and sensitise the public towards their duties and action and create an attitude shift towards such incidents.

The programme started in August this year and covered around 2,000 people. It is planned to cover a total of 5,600 members, with 50 people from each station, Priya Varadarajan, head of the foundation, told *The Hindu*.

Elaborating on the programme, Ms. Varadarajan said the programme includes a combination of things, including a proactive approach and boosting confidence and empowerment among the volunteers. The team ropes in street vendors, pourakarmikas, and autorickshaw drivers. Volunteers are covering public places to create awareness through street plays and door-to-door campaigns. This programme also helps to identify the volunteers as heroes to train and motivate them.

Once volunteers agree, training will be provided on how to handle a situation, measures to be taken if they come across such a situation and how to resolve it amicably. After the session, the volunteers will be awarded certificates and medals as " Durga" real heroes.

Tumakuru to get international cricket stadium; CM lays foundation stone

The Hindu Bureau
TUMAKURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah laid the foundation stone for an international cricket stadium in Tumakuru, around 60 km north of Bengaluru, on Monday.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said: "We have allocated 50 acres to the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) for the stadium. The project will significantly contribute to the economic growth and development of the district."

He urged officials to complete the construction at the earliest to fulfil expectations of cricket enthusiasts.

According to sources, the stadium will be built on land allocated to the KSCA by the Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB). The state-of-the-art facility, estimated to cost ₹150 crore, is expected to be completed in a couple of years.

Currently, the M. Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru hosts all international cricket matches in Karnataka.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah tries his hand at cricket after laying the foundation stone for the stadium in Tumakuru on Monday.

The Chief Minister said that the KSCA has requested land for a cricket stadium in Mysuru as well. "We will provide land in Mysuru too," he said. Home Minister and Tumakuru district in charge G. Parameshwara, Cooperation Minister K.N. Rajanna, Rural Development Minister Priyank Kharge, the State's representative in Delhi T.B. Jayachandra, district MLAs, KSCA president Raghuram Bhat, and other officials were present at the function.

Suresh Gowda, BJP MLA, allegedly tried to stage a protest during the CM's visit.

In response, Mr Siddaramaiah said, "I have been in politics for 41 years, Leader of Opposition twice, Chief Minister twice. If I was the kind to get scared, I would not be standing here today. I have done nothing wrong. So, there's nothing to fear."

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client's have agreed to purchase (Vacant Site) Immovable Property bearing **BBMP Municipal No.101,** (earlier Site No.101, formed in Kalyan Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., situated at Kempapura Agrahara, Bangalore North Taluk), now situated at **3 rd Cross, Kalyan Co-operative HBCS, Hampinagar, Bengaluru-560104,** having **PID No.34-140-101**, Coming under Bruhat BengaluruMahanagaraPalike Ward No.133 (old No.34) of Hampinagar, as described below in the schedule from, **1. Smt. C. HEMANGINI,** Also known as Hemangini Channabasappa Tumkur, and **2. Sri. Dr. M. N. CHANNABASAPPA,** Represented by its Reg GPA Holder, Smt. Hemangini Channabasappa Tumkur, dated: 14-02-2024, Any person/s who has got any valid claim, title, demand or interest over the said property or any objections to the purchase of the said property by my clients, may file his/her objections in writing, along with copies of the supporting documents, with the undersigned within **(7) Seven Days** from this day. Failing which it will be deemed that no other person/s has got any claim, demand, share, interest or title in the said property, by way of previous sale or agreement to sell or otherwise or objections to the purchase of the said property by my clients and my clients will complete the sale, as if, there is no such claim/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of **Vacant Site bearing No.101,** (earlier Site No.101, formed by the Kalyan Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., situated at Kempapura Agrahara, Bangalore North Taluk), now situated at **3 rd Cross, Kalyan Co-operative HBCS, Hampinagar, Bengaluru-560104,** having **PID No.34-140-101**, Coming under Bruhat Bengaluru MahanagaraPalike Ward No.133 (old No.34) of Hampinagar, Consists of Land measuring **East to West 15.20 meters** (50 feet) and **North to South 9.12 meters** (30 feet), in total measuring **139.35 square meters** (1500 Square feet), bounded on :

East by : **ROAD**, West by : Site No.103, North by : Site No.102 and South by : Site No.100.

Mr. DEEPAK T JAIN, Advocate
Fourth Floor, Sakalajee Market, Avenue Road, Bengaluru-560 002.
Mobile No. 9844486969, 9845268031
Place: Bengaluru Date: 02-12-2024

THE HINDU GROUP

THE HINDU
REWIND 2024
TRIVIA QUIZ
DAY 03

1. Name the Boeing X spacecraft designed to transport astronauts to and from the International Space Station (ISS). Its first manned mission, in June 2024, carried astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore to the ISS.
2. "The phrase 'Fix it' trended on Indian social media in September 2024 after a ticketing portal crash for this band's concerts. Can you name the band?"
3. India's first LNG-powered bus was launched in March 2024 to combat pollution from fossil fuels. It was introduced by the state transport corporation of which state?

*T&C apply.

Scan QR code or visit
bit.ly/Rewind2024TriviaQuiz
take the quiz. Top 3 winners* every day win gift vouchers.

Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. Chenab
2. Sun
3. Royal Challengers Bengaluru

Yesterday's Winners:
1. Namit Khurana, New Delhi | 2. Anandu K V, Bangalore | 3. Sailakshmi K N, Chennai

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
PALAKKAD DIVISION
E - TENDER NOTICE No. PGT/OT/22/2024 dated 22.11.2024

Sr. Divisional Engineer/Co-ordination/Southern Railway/Palakkad invites E–TENDERS for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate Cash value (₹) in lakhs	Bid Security Amoun (₹)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Quilandy- Provision of RCC well (6.00 m dia) with pump room at QLD and improvements to water sinks and supply of materials in Senior Section Engineer/Works/Calicut jurisdiction.	17.89	35,800/-
2	Calicut- General maintenance and up keeping of Officers Rest House (Wayanad), Officers Rest House (Kappad) at Calicut for a period of 24-months.	26.25	52,500/-
3	Repairs and leak proofing of PF shelter roofing and gutter at various stations in Senior Section Engineer/Works/Calicut section.	71.58	1,43,200/-
4	Repairs to PF shelter roofing and gutter at various stations in Senior Section Engineer/ Works/Kannur section	24.48	49,000/-
5	Palakkad Division - Under-water repairs of Piers / Abutments of important / major Bridges for the year 2024-25.	53.10	1,06,200/-
6	Shoranur - Mangalore Section - Fabrication, manufacturing, Supplying & Fixing of H beam steel sleepers for Br.No.904 Dn [(2 x 18.30 m) + (3 x 19.50)G] at Km.636 / 200 -300 between Tanur & Parappanangadi Stations.	89.72	1,79,400/-
7	Kannur - Repairs to name boards, drainage cover near water hydrants and replacing masonry sinks to stainless steel sinks.	89.77	1,79,600/-
8	Assistant Divisional Engineer/Mangalore Sub division: Cutting of trees standing either side of the Track in Senior Section Engineer/Permanent way/Payyanur, Kasaragod and Mangalore sections.	33.11	66,200
9	Valappattanam - Repairs to circulating area and approach road to the station building	14.80	29,600/-
10	Removal of vegetation, bushes in midsection along side track in between the tracks, side drain, catch water drain cleaning & Cutting trees in Senior Section Engineer/Permanent Way/ Angadipuram Section for a period of 1 year.	31.64	63,300/-
11	Removal of vegetation, bushes in midsection along side track in between the tracks, side drain, catch water drain cleaning & trimming of tree branches in Senior Section Engineer/Permanent Way/Shoranur Section for a period of 1 year.	52.53	1,05,100/-
12	Removal of vegetation, bushes in midsection along side track in between the tracks, side drain, catch water drain cleaning & Cutting trees in Senior Section Engineer/Permanent Way/Tirur Section for a period of 1 year.	29.06	58,100/-
13	Redevelopment of Railway Hospital at Palakkad.	149.54	2,24,800/-
14	Earthwork including removal of rock cutting (Soft rock/hard rock) in connection with proposed track machine siding at Madukkarai yard.	224.28	2,62,200/-
15	Palakkad Division - Divisional Enginner/East Jurisdiction, Redevelopment of Ottappalam Railway Station under ABSS - PHASE II Works.	468.81	3,84,400/-
16	Palakkad Division - Divisional Engineer/East Jurisdiction, Redevelopment of Kuttipuram Railway Station under ABSS - PHASE II Works	230.99	2,65,500/-
17	Palakkad Division - Divisional Engineer/East Jurisdiction, Redevelopment of Parapanangadi Railway Station under ABSS - PHASE II Works.	270.84	2,85,400/-
18	Palakkad Division - Sr.Divisional Engineer/ West Jurisdiction, Redevelopment of Thalassery Railway Station under ABSS - PHASE II Works	487.52	3,93,800/-
19	Palakkad Division - Sr.Divisional Engineer/West Jurisdiction, Redevelopment of Feroke Railway Station under ABSS - PHASE II Works	235.86	2,67,900/-
20	Shoranur - Calicut section - Proposed Pedestrian subway (1x 2.50 m x 1.85 m box) at Km.592/480-490 between Pattambi and Pallipuram Stations for safe passage of students of Govt. Oriental Higher Secondary school, Perumudiyoor, Pattambi.	97.05	1,94,100/-
21	Provision of Air-Conditioning at Divisional Office at Palakkad- Civil Portion	32.89	65,800/-
22	Provision of AMC for Scour monitoring system installed on Br.No.943 (Span 7 x 30.50 m) at Km.655/233-463 in Shoranur-Kannur Section.	8.54	17,100/-
23	Palakkad- Provision of Sports arena and allied facilities, flooring of existing multipurpose indoor court	94.50	1,89,000/-

(5) Tender closing date on 15.00 hrs: Sl. No. 1 to 12, 20 to 23: 16/12/2024, **Sl. No. 13 to 19:** 24/12/2024

(6) Completion Period in Months: Sl. No. 1: Three, **Sl. No. 2:** Twenty Four, **Sl. No. 3 to 5, 7, 15 to 19, 21 :** Four, **Sl. No. 6, 23:** Six, **Sl. No. 8, 10 to 12, 14, 20:** Twelve, **Sl. No. 9:** Two, **Sl. No. 13:** Five, **Sl. No. 22:** Sixty.

1. All the contracts on Works/goods/services will be subject to the new GST Act as applicable from time to time.
2. Contractors/Suppliers have to register themselves with GST authorities and to furnish the GST registration number in order to process the bills from 01.7.2017 onwards.
3. For complete details of the above tenders please visit Website **"http://www.ireps.gov.in."**

Note: It is the responsibility of the Tenderer to check any corrigendum issued for any correction or modifications uploaded subsequently in website; the same shall be taken in to account while submitting Tender.

Sr. Divisional Engineer/Co-ordination/Palakkad
(For and on behalf of the President of India)

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

No.: BLW-BSBOGMP(GAZ)/33/2021 **Date: 30.11.2024**

Notification for engagement of 02 posts of Contract Medical practitioners/specialist in Central Hospital, BLW / Varanasi on contract basis.

Notification has been issued for engagement of 02 posts of Contract Medical practitioners / Specialist (Gynaecologist & Ophthalmologist) on contract basis in Central Hospital, BLW Varanasi. Walk-in-Interview will be conducted on 11.12.2024, 10:00 AM, at Seminar Hall, Central Hospital, BLW, and Varanasi. Eligible candidates must bring required documents in original and duly filled application format with one set photocopy of required documents. Details of notification may be seen at BLW's website https://blw.indianrailways.gov.in.

For General Manager(P)

P.R./BLW/P-5

/blwvaranasi "वेबसाईट:–blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

IN THE COURT OF XI ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE: AT BENGALURU. (CCH-8)

P & S.C. No. 600 OF 2024

BETWEEN: The Archdiocese of Bangalore, Archbishop`s House, No.75, Millers Road, Benson Town Post, Bengaluru-560 046, Represented by its Special Power of Attorney Holder, Mr.Therese Babu, S/o. late. Emmanuel, Aged about 46 years. **...Applicant/Petitioner.**

AND: **NIL Respondents**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the above named petitioner has filed a petition under Section 276 of Indian Succession Act praying for grant of probate certificate in respect of schedule properties standing in the name of Joseph Thomas alias Thomas Joseph and who died on 2.5.2024.

Interested parties are hereby warned to appear before this Hon`ble Court on person or by a pleader duly instructed **on 07/01/2025 at 11-00AM** in forenoon to show cause against the petition, failing which wherein the matter will be heard and determined.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES:

1. ITEM No. 1 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No.83 measuring 9.18 Guntas situated at Mahadevapura Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk purchased under Sale Deed dated August 7, 1999 and registered as Document No. BNG(U) KRP/3365/1999-2000, Book I, Volume 4330 at Pages 1 - 22, recorded in CD No. ICD-031, in the office of Senior Sub-Registrar, Krishnarajapura, Bangalore and bounded as follows: East by : remaining portion of the same survey number (Private property), West by: By private property; North by: remaining portion of the same survey number (Private property); South by: Road.

2. ITEM No. 2 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No. 48/5 measuring 31 Guntas situated at Basavanapura Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk purchased under a Sale Deed dated March 2, 1995 and registered as Document No. 9071/94-95, Book I, Volume 4111 at Pages 31-36, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk and bounded as follows: East by: property belonging to late Chinnappa, presently chowrappa and land belonging to Michaelamma; West by: private land, North by : Private land and South by: land belonging to Church.

3. ITEM No. 3 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No. 1/1 measuring 1 Acre situated at Mylasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk purchased under Sale Deed dated February 15, 2000 and registered as Document No. BNG(U) BLR(S)/8426/1999-2000 at Pages 1 to 26, recorded in CD No. 57/1999-2000, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South and bounded as follows: East by: Road - Begur - Mylasandra Road; West by: land belonging to Ambrosappa; North by: land belonging to Gopala Reddy; South by: land belonging to the church.

4. ITEM No. 4 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No. 156/1 measuring 1/2Gunta (half gunta) situated at Sheebi Agrahara Village, Kallambella Hobli, Sira Taluk purchased under Sale Deed dated August 02, 1995 and registered as Document No. 827 /95-96, Book I, Volume 1220 at Pages 7-8, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Sira Taluk and bounded as follows: East by : V. Subramanya's property; West by: Govt lane; North by: Purchasers property and South by : Giriappa's property.

5. ITEM No. 5 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No. 156/1 measuring 12.25 Guntas situated at Agrahara Village, Kallanbella Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District purchased under Sale Deed dated July 11, 1995 and registered as Document No. 704/1995-96, Book I, Volume 1218 at Pages 178-182, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Sira Taluk and bounded as follows: East by : V. Subramanya's property; West by: Govt lane; North by : Road and South by : late Giriappa's property.

6. ITEM No. 6 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No. 156/1, measuring 11-3/4 Guntas situated at Seebi Agrahara Village, Kallanbella Hobli, Sira Taluk, Tumkur District purchased under Sale Deed dated July 31, 1995 and registered as Document No. 828/1995-96, Book I, Volume 1216 at Pages 161-166, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Sira Taluk and bounded as follows: East by : land belonging to Sri. Keshava Murthy; West by: land belong to the purchaser; North by: church and South by : land belonging to Sri.Giriappa.

7. ITEM No. 7 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No. 66, measuring 2 Acres 22 Guntas in Thirumala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Magadi Taluk purchased under Sale Deed dated February 18, 1997 and registered as Document No. 1647 /96- 97, Book I, Volume 2077 at Pages 2-5, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Magadi and bounded as follows: East by : land belonging to Sri. Narasimhaiah; West by: land belonging to Sri. Chikkanna; North by : Bangalore - Magadi Road; and South by : land belonging to Sri. Narasimhaiah.

8. ITEM No. 8 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No.65, measuring 1Acre 04Guntas in Arekere Village, Chikkaballapur Taluk purchased under Sale Deed dated September 30, 1994 and registered as Document No. 1878/94-95, Book I, Volume 1562 at Pages 76-79, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Chikkaballapura and bounded as follows: East by : private property; West by : Road; North by : Govt kharab land; and South by: property of Dodda Muninanjappa.

9. ITEM No. 9 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No.43/5A measuring 5Guntas in Arekere Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapur Taluk purchased under Sale Deed dated February 16, 1995 and registered as Document No. 2483/94- 95, Book I, Volume 1570 at Pages 47-49, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Chikkaballapura and bounded as follows: East by : Joseph's property; West by : church property; North by : Barthalomew's property; and South by: Dodda Shanthappa and Aralappa's property.

10. ITEM No. 10 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No.43/5B measuring 30 Guntas in Arekere Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapur Taluk purchased under Sale Deed dated February 16, 1995 and registered as Document No. 2483/94-95, Book I, Volume 1570 at Pages 47-49, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Chikkaballapura and bounded as follows: East by : Joseph's property; West by: church property; North by: Barthalomew's property; and South by : Dodda Shanthappa and Aralappa's property.

11. ITEM No. 11 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No.163 measuring 2Acres 05Guntas, situated at Ullapanahalli Village, Ambajidurga Hobli, Chintamani Taluk, Kolar District purchased under Sale Deed dated July 9, 1997 and registered as Document No. 919/97-98, Book I, Volume 1985 at Pages 127-130, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Chikkaballapura and bounded as follows: East by : survey no.196 Chikkanarayanappa's property & K. T. Venkatarama Reddy's survey no.163; West by: Survey no. 196 and survey no. 163 Chikkanarayanappa's property; North by: Church property and South by: Govt Road.

12. ITEM No. 12 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No.196, measuring 4 Acres 04 Guntas, Ullapanahalli Village, Ambajidurga Hobli, Chintamani Taluk, Kolar District, purchased under Sale Deed dated July 9, 1997 and registered as Document No. 919/97-98, Book I, Volume 1985 at Pages 127-130,in the office of Sub-Registrar, Chikkaballapura and bounded as follows: East by: survey no.196 Chikkanarayanappa's property & K.T.Venkatarama Reddy's survey no. 163; West by: Survey No.196 and Survey No.163 Chikkanarayanappa's property; North by: Church property and South by: Govt Road.

13. ITEM No. 13 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No. 16/1B measuring 5Guntas situated at Solur Village, Solur Hobli, Magadi Taluk purchased under two Sale Deed. The Sale Deed dated July 09, 1998 and registered as Document No. registered as Document No. 1339/1997-98, Book-I, Volume 2089 at Pages 97 to 98 in the office of the Sub-Registrar Magadi and Sale Deed dated December 16, 1996 and registered as Document No. registered as Document No. 1640/1996-9], Book - I, Volume 2076 at Pages 218 to 223 in the office of the Sub-Registrar Magadi and bounded as follows: East by : property belonging to Abdul Hafeez; West by: property belonging to Abdul Kareem; North by : property belonging to Kumaraiah and Road South by: Road leading to Kote temple.

14. ITEM No. 14 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No.165/7C measuring 17 Guntas in Ullappanahalli Village, Ambajidurga Hobli, Chintamani Taluk, Kolar District purchased under Sale Deed dated May 16, 1994 and registered as Document No. 409/94-95, Book I, Volume 1869 at Pages 69-73, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Chintamani and bounded as follows: East by: Chikkanarayanappa's Property, West by: St. Antony's Church Property, North by: Kadasenahalli-Chintamani Road and South by: Munivenkatamma's Property.

15. ITEM No. 15 PROPERTY : Land bearing Survey No.165/2 measuring 10.75 Guntas in Ullappanahalli Village, Ambajidurga Hobli, Chintamani Taluk, Kolar District purchased under Sale Deed dated December 16, 1994 and registered as Document No. 2428/94-95, Book I, Volume 1886 at Pages 38-43, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Chintamani and bounded as follows: East by : land belonging to Chikkavenkatarayappa; West by : land belonging to St Antony's Church, North by : Kadesanahalli - Chintamani Road and South by : land belonging to Yerappa (Chikkahanumappa's property)

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 21st day of November month, 2024.

By Order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

Address for Service: **A.C. Balaraj, Y.G. Mithun Kumar,** Advocates
No.618, 3rd Floor, Rajeshwari Market Building, Avenue Road, Bengaluru-560 002.

When a DNA analysis reveals a closely guarded family secret...

DNA analysis can create a 'narrow biologised notion of inheritance', to use the words of Projit Mukharji, for no reason other than that the molecule can reveal more than what we wish to tell. If this isn't a problem enough, consider what it means for laws we have, or don't, to protect our privacy

D.P. Kasbekar

The Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD) is a government laboratory in Hyderabad. It provides DNA-based investigative services to the police, the judiciary, and to hospitals that offer organ transplant procedures. Recently, the CDFD handled the case of a family in which the father offered to donate an organ to his ailing son. CDFD technicians generated DNA profiles of the donor, the patient, and also the patient's mother.

While the DNA profiles of the mother and the son were consistent with their claimed mother-son relationship, those of the father and his son were not. The DNA showed that the woman's husband was not the actual father of the patient but a close paternal relative, possibly a brother of the actual father. These findings didn't preclude the organ transplant procedure but by revealing the practice of levirate they created a potentially awkward situation for the family.

Levirate is the custom in some families in which a woman who is widowed or one whose husband is mentally or physically incapacitated has children fathered by her husband's brother. Understandably, the family would prefer to keep such knowledge private. The report from the CDFD was meant to tell doctors they could proceed with the transplant operation because the donor and the recipient belonged to the same family. But by explicitly revealing the woman's husband was not her son's father, it created the risk of an unwanted breach of the family's privacy.

What are DNA profiles?

Every cell in our body has a nucleus that contains two copies of each of the 23 chromosomes, numbered 1 to 23. This 1-23 lump is our genome. One chromosome of each pair is inherited via the mother's egg and the other via the father's sperm.

When we make our own reproductive cells – eggs or sperm – each egg or sperm receives only one chromosome from a pair, i.e., one genome set. When a sperm cell and an egg fuse, they create a cell with two genome sets. This cell, called the zygote, divides to produce all the other cells of the baby.

Every chromosome contains a single DNA molecule that runs from end to end. A DNA molecule has two strands. Each strand is a long, linear sequence of four chemicals: adenine (A), cytosine (C), guanine (G), and thymidine (T). The As on one strand form bonds with the Ts on the other, while Gs bond with the Cs. The As, Cs, Gs, and Ts on one strand are called the DNA's bases and the A-T and G-C combinations are the DNA's base-pairs.

The largest chromosome in humans, chromosome 1, has more than 240 million base-pairs; the shortest, chromosome 21, has more than 40 million. The 23 chromosomes together have 3.2 billion base-pairs.

At several locations, or loci, on each of the 23 chromosomes, some short DNA sequences are repeated multiple times. These loci are called simple tandem repeats (STRs). For example, one strand of an STR locus might have multiple repeats of GGCCA (GGCCAGGCCAGGCCA...). These are paired with complementary CCGGT repeats on the other strand (CCGGTCCGGTCCGGT...). The repeat number of STR loci can differ in the two chromosomes of a pair. For example, a particular chromosome derived from the father might have 30 repeats while the same one from the mother may have 35.

The DNA profile of a person is simply the number of times the simple sequences are repeated in the STR loci. This number can be found by first creating lots of copies of DNA from a sample (using the polymerase chain reaction, PCR), then segregating the DNA fragments by size using a technique called capillary gel electrophoresis. It is sensitive enough to both accurately and precisely establish the number of repeats in an STR.

For example, the table below shows the number of repeats of the father, the mother, and the son in the case illustrated above – i.e. their DNA profiles.

According to the table, the mother's versions of locus D18S51 had 14 and 15 repeats, while the son's versions had 15 and 17 repeats. But the father's versions of D18S51 had 14 and 14. The son received his 15-repeat version from his mother and the 17-repeat version from his father. But the woman's husband didn't have a 17-repeat variant, so this man couldn't be the actual father. Likewise, for three other STR loci, the son received paternal variants that were absent from the donor.

The son and the man still had identical Y-chromosome profiles, plus identical variants in 19 of the 23 non-Y STR loci. This indicated that the woman's husband is closely related to the biological father – possibly a brother. Thus the marriage is levirate.

Levirate marriages in India

Projit Bihari Mukharji, a historian of science at the University of Pennsylvania and Ashoka University in Haryana, ably discussed the practice of levirate marriage in India in his 2022 book 'Brown Skins, White Coats Race Science in India, 1920-66.'

Mukharji cited the pioneering anthropologist and writer Irawati Karve (1905-1970) when he wrote that she spoke "of the three debts that any Hindu man owed and upon the repayment of which his ultimate liberation depended. These debts were respectively to the gods, the sages, and the ancestors.

Each of these ... required the making of regular offerings. These offerings could only be made by a son. Hence, the function of a son was the making of ancestral offerings, rather than the maintenance of a biological or genetic lineage."

This pushed families to explore all possible ways, including levirate, to beget a son.

Mukharji added that families are reluctant "to divulge information... not simply... by a modern desire to avert scandal. Rather, it was because, within an older customary framework of kinship, 'descent' itself worked differently and to other ends. ... The refusal... to share sexual information was tacitly rooted in a more radical refusal to accept a narrowly biologised notion of inheritance."

Unfortunately, in the end, DNA analysis appears to have allowed the "narrow biologised notion of inheritance" to win for no reason other than that DNA just doesn't know when to shut up. And if this isn't a problem enough, consider what it could mean for the laws we have – or don't – to protect our genetic privacy.

(D.P. Kasbekar is a retired scientist.kasbekardp@yahoo.co.in)

When DNA creates a privacy issue

DNA has unwittingly opened a Pandora's box where the family skeletons could tumble out of the closet. You offer your DNA to further something that needs to be done and open a gaping wound

DNA analysis has the potential to cause very unpleasant situations. Illustrative image.

AUTOSOMAL STR DNA PROFILES OF THE INDIVIDUALS

Locus	Link Person	Patient	Donor
D3S1358	16,16	16,16	15,18
vWA	14,17	14,14	15,18
D16S539	11,12	11,12	11,12
CSF1PO	10,13	12,13	11,12
TPOX	8,11	8,11	8,11
Yindel	-	2	2
D8S1179	13,14	14,15	13,15
D21S11	29,33.2	29,33.2	28,32.2
D18S51	14,15	15,17	14,14
DYS391	-	10	10
D2S441	9,10	10,10	10,11
D19S433	13,13	13,13	13,13
THO1	7,8	7,9	6,9
FGA	24,24	24,27	23,27
D22S1045	11,17	11,17	11,17
D5S818	10,12	12,15	12,15
D13S317	8,12	12,12	11,12
D7S820	8,12	11,12	11,13
SE33	13,29.2	13,29.2	19,29.2
D10S1248	13,15	14,15	14,14
D1S1656	14,14	14,17.3	8,15.3
D12S391	21,24	17,21	17,17.3
D2S1338	19,22	21,22	19,21
AMELOGENIN	X,X	X,Y	X,Y

Y-CHROMOSOMAL STR DNA PROFILES OF THE INDIVIDUALS

Locus	Patient	Donor
DYS576	17	17
DYS389I	13	13
DYS635	23	23
DYS389II	29	29
DYS627	19	19
DYS460	10	10
DYS458	16	16
DYS19	14	14
YGATAH4	11	11
DYS448	21	21
DYS391	10	10
DYS456	17	17
DYS390	23	23
DYS438	9	9
DYS392	11	11
DYS518	40	40
DYS570	16	16
DYS437	14	14
DYS385	12,16	12,16
DYS449	31	31
DYS393	12	12
DYS439	11	11
DYS481	23	23
DYF387S1	36,39	36,39
DYS533	11	11

Levirate is the custom in which a woman who is widowed or one whose husband is mentally or physically incapacitated has children fathered by her husband's brother

A photo taken on July 5 by the New Zealand Department of Conservation shows rangers beside what appears to be the carcass of a rare spade-toothed whale after it was discovered washed ashore on a beach near Taieri Mouth, New Zealand. AFP

Scientists in NZ gather to decode puzzle of rarest whale

Associated Press

It is the world's rarest whale, with only seven of its kind ever spotted. Almost nothing is known about the enigmatic species. But on Monday a small group of scientists and cultural experts in New Zealand clustered around a near-perfectly preserved spade-toothed whale hoping to decode decades of mystery.

"I can't tell you how extraordinary it is," said Anton van Helden, senior marine science adviser for New Zealand's conservation agency, who gave the spade-toothed whale its name to distinguish it from other beaked species.

Van Helden has studied beaked whales for 35 years, but Monday was the first time he has participated in a dissection of the spade-toothed variety. In fact, the careful study of the creature, which washed up dead on a New Zealand beach in July, is the first ever to take place.

None has ever been seen alive at sea.

The list of what scientists don't know about spade-toothed whales is longer than what they do know. They don't know where in the ocean the whales live, why they've never been spotted in the wild, or what their brains look like. All beaked whales have different stomach systems, and researchers don't know how the spade-toothed kind processes its food.

Over the next week, researchers studying the 5-metre male at a research centre near Dunedin hope to find out.

"There may be parasites completely new to science that just live in this whale," said van Helden, who thrilled at the chance of learning how the species produces sound and what it eats. "Who knows what we'll discover?" Only six other spade-toothed whales have ever been found, but all those discovered intact were buried before DNA testing could verify their identification.

The dissection will be slower than usual, because it is being undertaken in partnership with the Maori, for whom whales are a precious treasure, and the creature will be treated with the reverence afforded to an ancestor

New Zealand is a whale-stranding hotspot, with more than 5,000 episodes recorded since 1840, according to the Department of Conservation. The first spade-toothed whale bones were found in 1872 on New Zealand's Pitt Island. Another discovery was made at an offshore island in the 1950s, and the bones of a third were found on Chile's Robinson Crusoe Island in 1986.

DNA sequencing in 2002 proved that all three specimens were of the same species and that it was distinct from other beaked whales. But researchers studying the mammal couldn't confirm whether the species was extinct until 2010, when two whole spade-toothed whales, both dead, washed up on a New Zealand beach.

On Monday, the seventh of its kind, surrounded by white-aproned scientists who were measuring and photographing, appeared relatively unblemished, giving no clue about its death. Researchers pointed out marks from cookiecutter sharks – normal, they said, and not the cause.

The dissection will be quiet, methodical, and slower than usual, because it is being undertaken in partnership with Maori, New Zealand's Indigenous people. To Maori, whales are a precious treasure, and the creature will be treated with the reverence afforded to an ancestor.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Forty years since the Bhopal disaster...

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

X leaked from the Union Carbide India, Ltd. (UCIL) plant in Bhopal on the night of December 2 and early on December 3, killing more than 4,000 people and injuring upwards of 5.7 lakh. Name X.

QUESTION 2

The UCIL facility in Bhopal was built in 1969 to manufacture a pesticide called Sevin, the brand name of a compound called 1-naphthyl methylcarbamate. The facility did so by reacting X (from Q1) with Y. Name Y. Y is also used to make the antidepressant sertraline.

QUESTION 3

A different way to make carbaryl is to react Y (from Q2) with a large quantity of Z to produce naphthylchloroformate, which, when it reacts with methylamine, creates carbaryl. Name Z —which France used to kill more than 85,000 people during World War I as a chemical weapon.

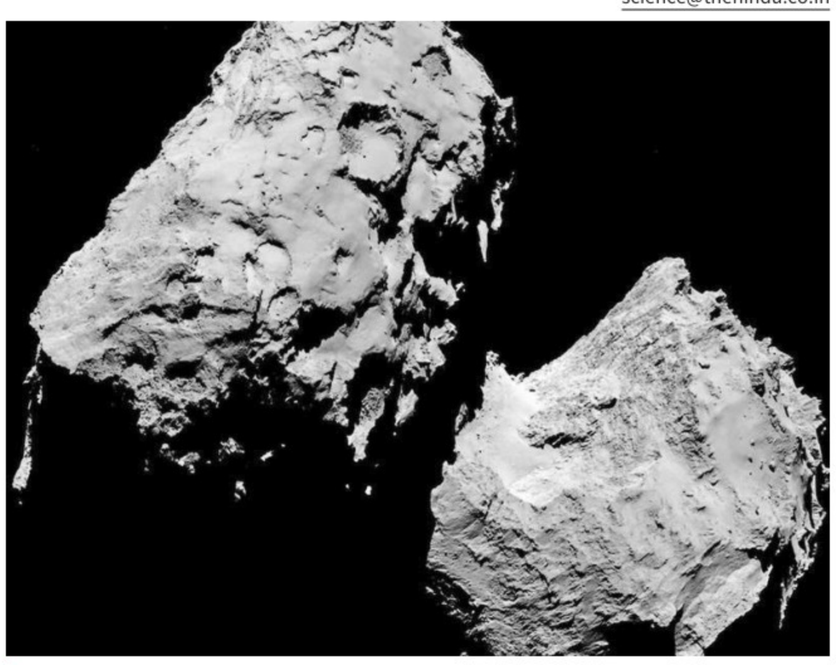
QUESTION 4

X (from Q1) is a gas that's very toxic to humans even at very small concentrations. Although it doesn't have a specific smell even at a concentration of 5 ppm, it is strongly _____. Fill in the blank with the name of a property that induces tears in eyes.

QUESTION 5

The trigger for the Bhopal disaster was personnel at the UCIL plant adding a large quantity of _____ to a tank containing X (from Q1). Fill in the blank with a compound whose reaction with X produces heat, which can cause more of the X to react and eventually to boil.

Answers to November 28 quiz:
1. Material of which ATOW1996 is made – **Ans: Gravel**
2. Antarctic ice shelf abutting southernmost piece of open ocean – **Ans: Ross ice shelf**
3. Western terminal of longest motorable straight line on land – **Ans: France**
4. Mountain whose peak is farthest point on land from earth's centre – **Ans: Mt. Chimborazo**
5. World's largest city located below sea level – **Ans: Baku, Azerbaijan**
Visual: **Ojos del Salado**
First contact: Jose Joji | Rahul Nair | Anmol Agrawal | K.N. Viswanathan



Visual: Name this comet. Ten years ago a robot touched down on it, and, a year later, scientists used the data it collected to report the first presence of X (from Q1) on a comet.
ESA (CC BY-SA 4.0)

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Three killed, 20 injured in bus crash near Tumakuru

The driver of the bus began to speed, but lost control when the steering wheel jammed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three women were killed and 20 others injured when a private bus they were travelling in crashed into a divider and rolled over to the other side of the road at Kallambella near Tumakuru in the early hours of Monday.

The deceased were identified as Urvi Nayan, 28, from Lucknow, Priyanka Mandal, 26, Kolkata, and Shubali Singh, 26, Bengaluru.

The bus was heading to Bengaluru from Goa. The driver began to speed and attempted to overtake slower vehicles but lost control when the steering wheel jammed. Then, the bus went out of control, crashed into the divider, and rolled over to the other side of the road. The bus's windows were broken from the impact, and the three women passengers were thrown out of the vehicle.

The damaged bus was moved to the roadside to allow traffic movement on the national highway at Kallambella, near Tumakuru, on Monday.

Passersby rushed the passengers and the driver to a nearby hospital. Two of the women were declared brought dead, while the other woman succumbed to injuries later.

Twenty passengers were on the bus, and the driver and the other passengers sustained injuries. They were treated at Sira government hospital.

Traffic movement on the national highway was disrupted for some time. And it resumed after the vehicle was pulled to the roadside. The Kallambella police have registered a case. Further probe is on.

Location of skydeck may change yet again

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The location of the proposed 250-metre high skydeck, which was earlier finalised by BBMP at Hemmigepura, will likely see a change, sources said.

In July this year, the BBMP had finalised a 25-acre plot owned by Nandi Infrastructure Corridor Enterprises (NICE) at Hemmigepura. In November first week, BBMP had invited objections from citizens for this location.

Sources in the BBMP said that there were issues with the particular land parcel.

The civic body had suggested that the government of Karnataka acquire the land in a barter system with NICE, giving another piece of government land in exchange for the particular piece of land. However, this has run into obstacles.

An artist's impression of the proposed watchtower (sky deck) in Bengaluru.

Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said the government is yet to give its approval for the particular plot, and the exact spot may change.

A senior civic official said while the civic body thinks that this 25-acre plot is the most suitable to build the skydeck in this area, it may be forced to change the location due to legal issues.

Third time

If the location is changed yet again, it will be the third time that the location of the proposed sky deck will be changed. Earlier, the civic body had identified 10 acres in the New Government Electric Factory (NGEF) premises. Another option considered was the premises of Karnataka Soaps and Detergent Limited (KSDL).

However, both were dropped as Airports Authority of India and Indian Air Force were likely to refuse permission for a 250-metre high skydeck for security reasons.

CID Dy. SP Kanakalakshmi questioned by CCB in alleged harassment and bribery case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Superintendent of Police (Dy. SP) Kanakalakshmi from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) was interrogated by the Central Crime Branch (CCB) of Bengaluru police on Monday.

The police sources revealed that investigators collected relevant documents during the questioning.

Kanakalakshmi has been summoned again to appear on Wednesday for further investigation, according to sources.

The case stems from a First Information Report (FIR) filed by the Banashankari police last week, naming the Deputy Superintendent of Police a suspect.

The FIR was registered after the death of Jeeva S., a 35-year-old businesswoman who died by suicide after alleging harassment from CID officials last month.

11-page note

Jeeva, who owned a timber shop in Peenya, left behind an 11-page note detailing the alleged harassment she faced during a CID inquiry.

In the letter, she accused Kanakalakshmi of demanding a bribe of ₹25 lakh, rejecting her documents, stripping her during questioning, accusing her of carrying cyanide, and subjecting her to public humiliation.

The police has registered an FIR against the Deputy Superintendent of Police, charging her under the Prevention of Corruption Act and with abetment to suicide.

(Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 or KIRAN Ph.: 1800-599-0019 for help .)

Motorcycle rider killed in accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 25-year-old motorcycle rider was killed when a speeding petrol tanker knocked him down near Pantarapalya metro station on Sunday evening.

Davenagere native

The deceased has been identified as Kiran Kumar H.R., who worked as a technician in a Kannada tele serial and a native of Davanagere.

According to the police, he was heading towards Nayandahalli from R.R. Nagar arch around 6.10 p.m. when the petrol tanker knocked down his motorcycle.

Kiran sustained head injuries and died on the way to hospital.

Case registered

The Byatarayanapura traffic police have registered a case of death due to negligence against the tanker driver, Aravind Kumar Yadav, for further investigation.

Student found dead after being cheated by classmate

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 19-year-old B.Com student from Rajajinagar ended her life on Friday, allegedly after being cheated by a classmate who lured her into an online game investment scam and made away with gold valuables worth ₹15 lakh.

The Rajajinagar police have registered a case of abetment to suicide based on a complaint filed by Bharath Kumar, a businessman. According to the police, Priyanka B. was convinced by her classmate, identified as Diganth, to invest in an online gaming scheme that promised double returns.

Trusting him, she took gold worth ₹15 lakh from her home and handed it over to him. However, Diganth allegedly began avoiding her, refused to return the gold, and even denied having received it.

Distraught over the betrayal, Priyanka ended her life on Friday while her father was away on a business trip. The incident came to light when family members discovered a suicide note in which she reportedly named Diganth as the reason for her decision. The police are conducting further investigations into the matter.

(Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 or KIRAN Ph.: 1800-599-0019 for help .)

Wild elephant enters Kukke Subrahmanya

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

A wild elephant entered the temple town of Kukke Subrahmanya in Dakshina Kannada late on Sunday evening.

A Forest Department official said that the elephant was spotted in the town at about 8 p.m. After forest officials and locals chased the pachyderm, it disappeared into the nearby forest after some time. It did not attack anyone or any property in the town, the official said.

The elephant's entry caused panic among townsfolk after it was seen near the Mahadwara, the main entrance of the temple, and near the Kukke Samputa Narasimhaswamy Mutt. Jubin Mohapatra, Assistant Commissioner, Puttur-Sub Division, said that the Forest Department has formed a team to trace the elephant if it was nearby and to drive it further away.

After forest officials and locals chased the pachyderm, it disappered into the nearby forest. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The town is home to the well-known Kukke Subrahmanya temple, which sees the highest footfall in Karnataka. Kukke Subrahmanya is witnessing Champashasti celebrations since November 27. It will go on till December 12. The panchami rathotsava is scheduled on December 6 while Champashasti is scheduled on December 7.

The Champashasti festivals attracts huge crowds from faraway places in Karnataka.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, DEC. 03		
RISE	06:27	SET 17:52
RISE	08:13	SET 19:41
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 04		
RISE	06:28	SET 17:52
RISE	09:08	SET 20:39
THURSDAY, DEC. 05		
RISE	06:28	SET 17:53
RISE	10:00	SET 21:38

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	26	24
Mysuru	25	20
Bengaluru	23	20

Bengaluru Today
24°C The weather will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower with gusty winds will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
26°C Mostly dry weather to prevail. Morning will be slight cool. Day will be comfortable with rise in temperature.

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THE HINDU
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Mortal remains handed over

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

The mortal remains of probationary IPS officer Harsh Bardhan, who died following an accident near Hassan on Sunday, was handed over to his family members on Monday.

Harsh Bardhan, 27, was on his way to Hassan, to take charge as Assistant Superintendent of Police, as part of his training programme from Mysuru when he met with the accident.

APPOINTMENT

Khaja Bandanawaz University
Sayyid Akbar Husayni (ICSE & ISC) School
SAHS Campus, Sangtrashwadi,
Kalaburagi-585-104

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

Junior Section Teachers:
1. Mathematics 2. Computer Science 3. Music 4. Science
• Minimum Qualification: B.A, B.Sc with B.Ed/ D.Ed./ TTC. 5. English
• Minimum 03 years of experience.• Proficiency in English is must.
Senior Section Teachers:
1. Biology 2. English 3. Kannada 4. Hindi 5. Mathematics
6. Commerce/ Business Studies
• Qualification: Trained Graduates/Postgraduates in the subjects.
(B.Ed is must)
• Experience will be an added advantage.
• Teachers who have experience in ICSE/ISC schools will be preferred.
• Well furnished accommodation at nominal cost will be made available to outstation candidates.
Salaries are attractive with all emoluments and benefits.
Send complete Bio-data and certificates to the following address.
Email to: registrar@kbn.university OR Submit the Hard-copies to:
The Registrar, Main Campus, Admin Block
Khaja Bnadanawaz University, Kalaburagi-585 104.
Last Date to Apply is: 15.12.2024

Government of Karnataka
Department of Women and Child Development
and Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens' Bengaluru
Directorate for the Empowerment of Differently Abled & Senior Citizens

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

WORLD DISABLED DAY – 2024
THEME FOR 2024
Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future

Date : 03.12.2024 Tuesday,
Time : 10.00 A.M.
Venue : Sri Kanteerva Indoor Stadium, Sampangi Ramanagar, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru

Smt. Lakshmi R. Hebbalkar,
Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Disabled and Senior Citizens Empowerment Department Distributing certificates to the participants on the occasion of World Disabled Day in Bengaluru.

Schemes being implemented by the State Government
Special schools and institutions being run by the State Government
- Anupalana Grihas for Intellectually Disabled Men & Women
- Manasa Centres
- Hostel for Disabled Employees Trainees and Students
- Government Braille Press
- Training Center for Teachers of Visually and Hearing Impaired Children
- Government Residential schools for visually impaired & for hearing impaired

Schemes for all Types of Disabled Persons
- Scholarship Scheme
- Incentive Scheme
- Fee Reimbursement Scheme
- Aids & Appliances Scheme
- Battery Operated Wheelchairs Scheme
- Medical Relief Fund Scheme
- Aadhaar Scheme
- Unemployment Allowance Scheme
- Marriage Incentive Scheme
- Rural & Urban Rehabilitation Scheme
- Death Compensation Scheme
- Prathibha Scheme
- Sadhana Scheme

Schemes for the Visually Impaired
- Talking Laptop Scheme
- Braille kit Scheme
- Childcare Allowance Scheme
- Digital Book Bank Scheme

Motorized Two Wheeler with Retrofitment Scheme for Physically Disabled

Schemes for the Intellectually Challenged
- Life Insurance Scheme for Parents of disabled persons
- Niramaya Medical Insurance scheme
- Anupalana Griha Scheme

Scheme to Distribute Sewing Machines to the Hearing Impaired

Schemes being implemented by voluntary organizations under state grants
- Child Centric Special Educational Scheme for Disabled Children
- Day Care Centers for Autism Children
- Hostels for Employed Handicapped Women / Girl Students and Trainees
- Speech training Walk Centers for 0 - 4 year old hearing impaired children along with mothers
- Special Schools under State Grant in Aid Code 1982
- District Disabled Rehabilitation Centers

Caregivers Allowance
- From 2024-25, a monthly allowance of Rs.1,000 will be provided to the caregivers of individuals suffering from Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, Parkinson's disease, and Multiple Sclerosis.

As per 2011 Census, there were 13,24,205 physically disabled people in Karnataka.

Monthly pension being given to 9,73,388 disabled persons from Social Security and Pension Department.

8,04,074 Disabled persons were given Unique Disability Identity Cards.

DELIVERED AS PROMISED... Gruha Lakshmi ₹2000 Gruha Jyothi UPTO 200 Anna Bhagya 10kg Free bus service for women across Karnataka Yuvanidhi ₹3000 ₹1500

Dr. Shamla Iqbal I.A.S
Government's Secretary, Department of Women & Child Development Disabled and Senior Citizens Empowerment

Sri. T. Raghavendra K.A.S. (Super Time Scale)
Director, Directorate for the Empowerment of Differently Abled & Senior Citizens

Directorate of Disabled and Senior Citizens Empowerment
6th Floor, Main Tower & Ground Floor, Podium Block,
Vishveshwaraiah Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560001.

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of migrants arrested at the U.S. borders

47,700 The number of migrants caught illegally crossing the U.S. borders with Mexico and Canada fell in November, part of a months-long trend that undercuts Donald Trump's claim that illegal immigration is out of control. REUTERS

The lawyers covered under CM Advocates Welfare Scheme

31,000 The AAP government extended its ₹10 lakh health insurance coverage to 3,330 new lawyers under Chief Minister Advocates Welfare Scheme. The government is providing health insurance to over 27,000 lawyers in Delhi. PTI

Number of days of judicial remand for Imran Khan

14 An anti-terrorism court on Monday sent former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on a 14-day judicial remand in connection with seven cases related to the recent protests by his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party. Khan was presented before the anti-terrorism court judge at Adiala jail. PTI

Individuals arrested in Shimla under the NDPS Act so far

557 Till November this year, the Shimla police had arrested 557 individuals in 237 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. This includes 21 females, 142 interstate drug operatives, and 35 Nepalese nationals. PTI

The people killed in a football match stampede in Guinea

56 At least 56 people were killed in "deadly stampedes" at a football match in Guinea's second-largest city of N'Zerekore. Protests of dissatisfaction with the referee's decisions led to stone-throwing by supporters. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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India's 'One Nation, One Subscription' plan

Is the global research ecosystem increasingly embracing open access publishing away from subscription-based models? What is an article processing charge? Do researchers own the copyrights of their work after it has been published in a journal? What are open access repositories?

EXPLAINER

Moumita Koley

The story so far:

The Union Cabinet approved the Indian government's 'One Nation, One Subscription' (ONOS) scheme on November 25. The ONOS promises to provide equitable access to scholarly journals in all public institutions.

What does the ONOS entail?

First mooted around 2018-2019, the scheme's ambitious rollout comes with a substantial financial outlay of ₹6,000 crore over three years (2025-2027), to be paid to 30 major international journal publishers. For perspective, the Indian public and its academic institutions collectively spend around ₹1,500 crore every year on journal subscriptions. This is a rough estimate and probably includes the cost of subscription to databases as well; if so, the current total public expense to access journals will be well lower than ₹2,000 crore per year.

At the outset, ONOS's promise to offer equitable access to research articles, irrespective of an institution's prestige or financial capacity, which seems like a step towards democratising knowledge. But a closer examination reveals complexities that call for deeper analysis.

Is ONOS swimming against the tide?

The central question is: why is India investing heavily in a subscription-based model at a time when the global research ecosystem is increasingly embracing Open-Access (OA) publishing?

In the subscription model, a journal receives manuscripts from scientists (about their studies, etc.), evaluates them through peer review, and accepts (or rejects) them. Once a paper is accepted, the journal publishes it and makes money by charging people and institutions to access it. OA refers to papers that are published to be freely accessible. There are different kinds of OA. A common type is called gold OA, where the journal makes money by charging authors an article processing charge (APC) to publish papers in the journal. The APC for a single paper has been known to be thousands of dollars. For example, *Nature Communications* charges $6,790 per paper. Scientific knowledge, as a public good, should ideally be accessible to all, especially when taxpayers fund it. The COVID-19 pandemic showed why it is important to have immediate and unrestricted access to research, not just for scientists but also for the people at large: to combat misinformation and drive informed decision-making.

Today, more than 53% of all scientific papers worldwide are open access in some way, according to data from Clarivate's Web Of Science platform. This is a significant increase since 2018-2019, when ONOS was first conceptualised, and raises questions about ONOS's financial prudence. If more than half of the research articles are freely accessible, should India not be paying significantly less for subscriptions than before? ONOS risks draining taxpayer money to achieve an obsolete good.

Some international developments further complicate the picture. The U.S. Office of Science and Technology Policy has mandated that from 2026, all publicly funded research articles must be freely accessible without any delay. Similarly, Horizon Europe, the European Union's flagship funding program, requires peer-reviewed publications resulting from its funding be made freely available online. Considering these moves, in another year a significant fraction of research produced worldwide is likely to be freely accessible to everyone.

This timeline raises questions about ONOS's relevance beyond 2025.

What are the challenges of commercial publishing?

The global scholarly publishing system is dominated by a handful of commercial publishers based in Western countries, and they have long been criticised for excessive subscription fees, inefficiencies resulting in delays in publishing articles, and resistance to innovation.

The scholarly publishing industry is built on publicly funded research. Researchers generate new knowledge, write their findings, and perform peer reviews – all without direct compensation from publishers. In the subscription model, these publishers charge exorbitant fees for access, creating a situation where public institutions must pay to access work they have already supported. Publisher profit margins often exceed 30%, revealing the exploitation implicit to scholarly publishing systems.

Even the shift towards OA has been dominated by gold OA and its high APCs. Many prominent journals in a few disciplines, such as biological science, have transitioned to become fully OA. Indian researchers wishing to publish in these journals will have to pay APCs since the allocation for ONOS doesn't provide for this fee. Moreover, most subscription journals are now hybrid, so researchers – especially from the U.S. and the EU – are paying APCs to publish their articles to be OA in these journals.

India, with its immense pool of talent and resources, has the potential to reimagine this publishing ecosystem, fostering innovation in the workflow. Especially when most of the backend work in the publishing industry is outsourced to India, the infrastructure and knowhow definitely exist in the national ecosystem. But ONOS risks entrenching the status quo by reinforcing reliance on Western publishers.

What about copyright transfers?

Another significant issue with the subscription model is the need for researchers to surrender their copyrights to publishers. This allows publishers to use their work without considering the authors' rights or consent. A recent controversy involving *Taylor & Francis* (T&F) and Microsoft exemplifies the extent of this problem. In early 2024, *T&F* had signed a deal allowing Microsoft to use its journal content to train artificial intelligence (AI) models. Since authors don't hold the copyright of their work, there is no need for permission from authors – yet they objected because the use of their work to train AI models was going unpaid. There is an urgent need for policies that protect researchers' intellectual property.

There are ways to address copyright violation concerns. Harvard University pioneered a policy in 2008 that granted the university a non-exclusive, irrevocable right to disseminate the work of university researchers. Researchers retained the right to self-archive their work in OA repositories. Many institutes like the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Oxford followed suit. ONOS has the opportunity to emulate these models by incorporating a nationwide 'rights retention' policy, enabling Indian researchers to deposit their work in institutional repositories immediately after publication – a practice known as green open access.

India's own 2014 Open Access Policy requires researchers funded by the Departments of Biotechnology and of Science & Technology to make their work openly accessible – but its implementation has been lacklustre. The ONOS could have been the ideal platform to enforce this mandate, ensuring Indian research becomes globally accessible through open repositories immediately after publication.

Is digital content preserved?

Another issue is the long-term preservation of research articles, now that almost all major journals are published online. A recent study in the *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication* reported that 28% of articles with Data Object Identifiers (DOIs) – unique IDs to identify published papers – aren't preserved, exposing gaps in current practices. The discontinuation of *Heterocycles*, a journal published by the Japan Institute of Heterocyclic Chemistry, in 2023 left around 17,000 articles inaccessible, highlighting the risks of relying solely on publishers to preserve scientific knowledge. In this case access was eventually restored, but the delay illustrates the need for solutions like self-archiving through green OA.

Is self-reliance possible in publishing?

In an era where self-reliance is a national priority, it has been overlooked in scholarly publishing. While Indian researchers may continue publishing in journals like *Nature, Science, Cell*, etc., significant potential exists to elevate Indian journals to world-class standards.

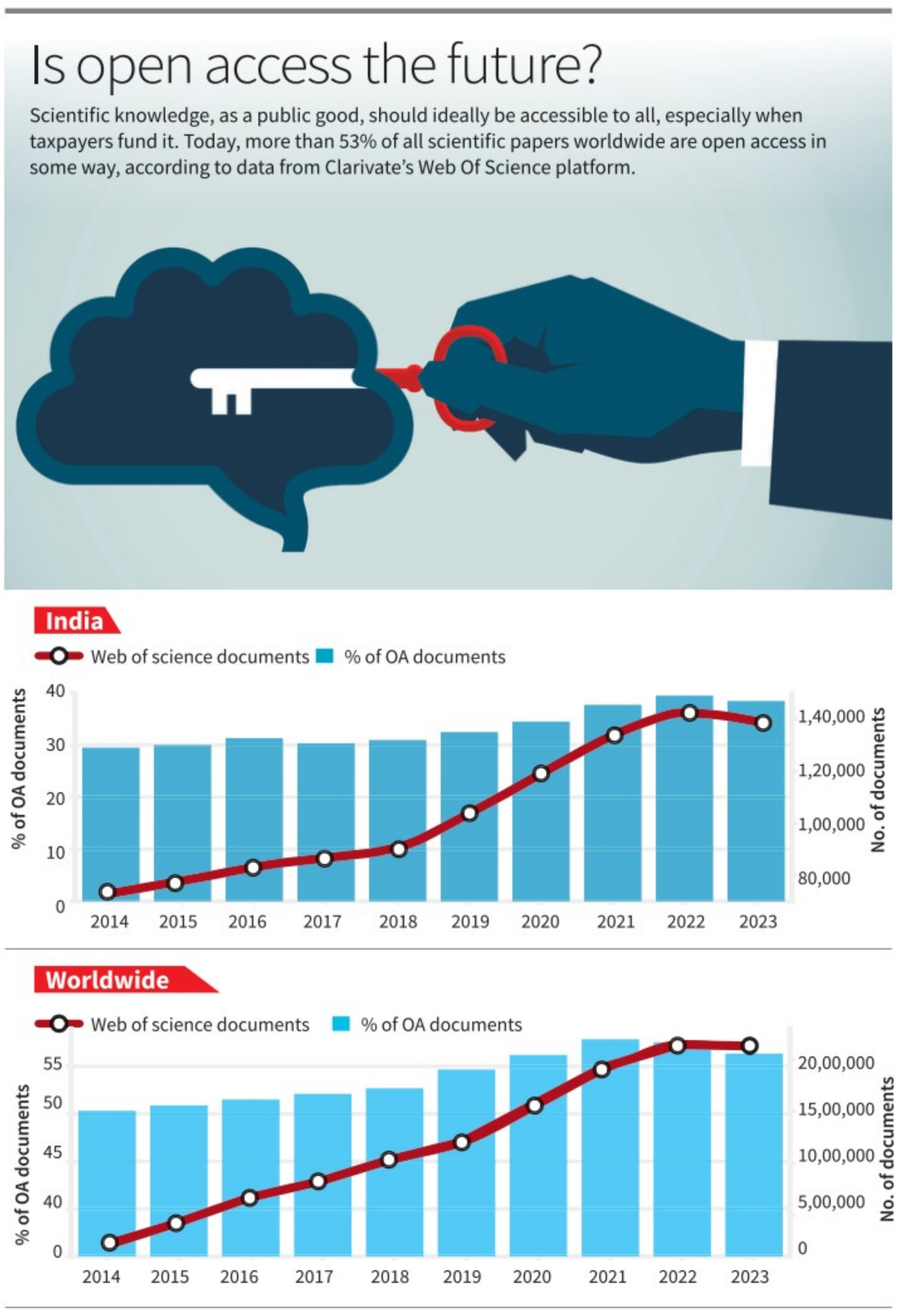
India has the resources and expertise to build a robust indigenous publishing ecosystem. Preprinting and data sharing should also be considered as an integral part of the publishing workflow (preprinting refers to a paper being published online before it has been peer-reviewed). By investing in infrastructure, editorial processes, and global visibility for Indian journals, the country can reduce its dependence on Western publishers and attract high-quality submissions from across the world. This is not just about the money being drained from our ecosystem: it's also about establishing India as a leader in science and innovation.

What could ONOS have done?

ONOS can be lauded for its ambition to democratise research access, but it should have addressed deeper structural issues plaguing scholarly publishing. There should have been parallel efforts to allow authors to retain copyright, implement OA through institutional repositories, and, importantly, improve self-reliance in scholarly publishing.

Given the allocation ONOS has received from the Indian government, it certainly had the potential to set a precedent for equitable and innovative publishing by addressing all the issues in parallel – yet it chose to overlook them. Without addressing these challenges, ONOS risks becoming a costly short-term fix. It is time to re-evaluate whether this initiative is a step forward or an expensive detour.

Moumita Koley is a senior research analyst at Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru.



THE GIST

In the subscription model, a journal receives manuscripts from scientists (about their studies, etc.), evaluates them through peer review, and accepts (or rejects) them. Once a paper is accepted, the journal publishes it and makes money by charging people and institutions to access it.

Open Access (OA) refers to papers that are published to be freely accessible. There are different kinds of OA. A common type is called gold OA, where the journal makes money by charging authors an article processing charge (APC) to publish papers in the journal. The APC for a single paper has been known to be thousands of dollars. For example, *Nature Communications* charges $6,790 per paper.

ONOS can be lauded for its ambition to democratise research access, but it should have addressed deeper structural issues plaguing scholarly publishing. There should have been parallel efforts to allow authors to retain copyright, implemented OA through institutional repositories, and, most importantly, improved self-reliance in scholarly publishing.

Cyclone Fengal effect: Heavy rains flood roads, uproot trees in city

Minimum temperature on Sunday was 20.4 degrees Celsius, which is 2.3 degrees below normal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru received incessant rains for the second consecutive day on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Incessant rains lashing Bengaluru under the impact of Cyclone Fengal resulted in the inundation of multiple roads and tree falls on Monday.

Till 5.30 p.m., Bengaluru city received 14.2 mm rainfall, while HAL Airport and KIA received 16.6 mm and 4.3 mm rainfall respectively. The city recorded a maximum temperature of 22.5 degrees Celsius. The IMD has forecast a cloudy sky and moderate to heavy rain for the next 36 hours.

The city has been receiving showers since Sunday morning, and the rain continued the next morning. On Sunday, the city recorded a minimum temperature of 20.4 degrees Celsius, which is 2.3 degrees below normal.

BBMP data showed that three trees had fallen in Jayanagar 4th Block and Malleshwaram and one near the office of the Criminal Investigation Department. The asbestos roof of a house in J.J. Nagar collapsed, and teams from the BBMP rescued two people from the building. They have been shifted to a temporary relief centre in the neighbourhood.

A senior BBMP official said flood mitigation teams are on standby across the city.

Traffic chaos

Residents returning to Bengaluru after the weekend faced traffic congestion on Mysuru Road, Tumakuru Road, NICE Road, and other stretches.

Rakesh S., who was travelling from Hosadurga to Bengaluru on Sunday evening, said he covered about 182 km in two and a half hours, but it took him another two hours to travel 67 km from Nelamangala toll gate to his house.

Due to rain, there was bumper-to-bumper traffic even on NICE road as vehicles moved slowly.

Residents returning to Bengaluru after the weekend faced traffic congestion on Mysuru Road, Tumakuru Road, NICE Road, and other stretches

On Monday morning, office-goers faced severe inconvenience on the road with flooding at Panathur underbridge, Outer Ring Road, Bannerghatta Road, Kanakapura Road, and Doddanekundi village road. Even before the start of the peak hour, roads were congested and the problem persisted all through the day.

Schools, colleges closed

Schools and colleges will remain closed on Tuesday in Kolar, Chickaballapur, Ramanagara, Mandya, Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, Kodagu, Dakshina Kannada, and Udupi. In Chikkamagaluru district, only anganwadis and schools will be closed, while colleges will function as usual.

The university exams will be take place too. Meanwhile, no holiday has been declared for educational institutions in Bengaluru.

Abduction, robbery: Police launch search for prime accused

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Byatarayanapura police have launched a search to nab the prime accused in connection with the abduction and robbery of a Kerala-based man.

On November 29, a gang robbed Shammas Ahmed, a resident of Mattannur in Kerala, of ₹15 lakh. Shammas came to Bengaluru to look for a shop to set up a bakery. He had brought with him ₹15 lakh cash, which he had borrowed from a bank, to make an advance payment. When he could not find a suitable place, he decided to return home.

After he got to the city market to catch a bus to his hometown, the gang posed as policemen intercepted Shammas in a car. They accused him of peddling drugs and forced him into the car on the pretext of inquiry, the police said.

They reached an isolated place on NICE road, assaulted him, and escaped with the cash bag, leaving him alone. With the help of passersby, Shammas managed to contact his relatives and later complained to the police.

Based on the complaint, the police tracked down the car and detained a few suspects. A search for the prime accused is on.

Three injured in LPG explosion at Anekal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three factory workers were severely injured, and their house was partially damaged in an explosion following a gas cylinder leakage at Kacharakanahalli in Anekal on Monday morning.

The injured, Biden Das, Dayal Thanti, and Gulab Karmakar are from Assam and have been staying in a rented house belonging to Krishna Reddy for the past few months.

According to the police, the explosion occurred in the morning when the lights were switched on. The door and windows of the house were shattered, and the three occupants of the house sustained burn injuries. The neighbours rushed to their help and shifted them to the hospital before alerting the police.

The Surya City police have taken up a case and are investigating.

Similar incident

On Saturday, a family of four was injured in a similar incident in D.J. Halli. The injured, Nazim, a chaat vendor, his wife, Kulsum, and two children were admitted to Victoria Hospital burns ward.

Constable suspended for misbehaviour

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A police constable, attached to the Byatarayanapura police station, has been suspended for allegedly misbehaving with a 21-year-old woman during a passport verification process.

According to the police, Constable Kiran had visited the woman's house for passport verification and misbehaved with her.

The victim, an employee in a private firm, raised a complaint with the police. Based on this, the police launched an inquiry. The accused constable was questioned, and a prima facie inquiry found him guilty.

Kiran was placed under suspension.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Gandhinagar Commercial Complex Building,
Majestic, Bengaluru-560 009.

No. EE(GNR)/Kpp/007/2024-25 Date: 02.12.2024

CORRIGENDUM

Sub: Postponement of Tender EE/GNR/PROC/007/2024-25, Dated: 02.12.2024 Due to Technical Errors.

Following shall be the Calendar of events for Tendering: (Pre bid meeting: **16.12.2024 at 12:30 p.m. (2)** Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders : **18.12.2024 upto 4:00 p.m. (3)** Date & Time for opening of Technical Bid: **20.12.2024 at 12:30 p.m. (4)** Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid: **(Will be intimated Through Kppp).**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Gandhinagar Division, BBMP.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & VETERINARY SERVICES,
Office of the Commissioner, Pashupaalana Bhavana, 1st Floor, Opp. to CBI Office, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560 024.
Email : commissionerahvs@gmail.com Ph: 080-23412767

No: ಆಪಪಂ/ಅನಿ(ಚಾಅ)ASCAD & NADCP/TENDER/2024-25 Date: 02.12.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(KPP Portal mode Only)

The Commissioner of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore hereby invites bids through KPP-portal from eligible bidders FOR **SUPPLY OF PORCINE CYSTICERCOSIS VACCINE UNDER ASCAD SCHEME TO VETERINARY INSTITUTIONS FOR THE YEAR 2024-25** for which the tendered Amount is Rs. **100.00** lakhs..

Complete tender documents can be viewed by visiting website No: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from Date : **02.12.2024** and tenderers can upload all the necessary documents through KPP portal from **02.12.2024** to **01.01.2025** till **17.30** hours. Further information can be obtained from KPP Portal and this office during office hours.

Sd/- Deputy Director, Animal Disease Surveilance Scheme
Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services
DIPR/CP/3574/Zen/2024-25

Seer, booked for hate speech, seeks exemption

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Vishwa Vokkaligara Maha Samsthana seer Chandrashekaranatha Swami, who was booked for his controversial remarks against members of the Muslim community and summoned by the Upparpete police for questioning on Monday, sought exemption from personal appearance citing health reasons.

In a letter, the seer said he was a cancer patient and a senior citizen.

"I was issued a notice to appear for an inquiry on Monday at 11 a.m., but I am an 81-year-old man," the seer said. "My doctors have advised me to take rest for about 10 days. Hence, I won't be able to attend the inquiry. If I recover, I will be able to attend on December 18. However, if I cannot come for the inquiry and if it is an inconvenience to you, I don't have any objection to the police coming to the mutt and recording my statement," he said in his letter.

The Upparpet police booked the seer under BNS Section 299 (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage the religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) following a complaint from Syed Abbas, a social worker.

The seer said he had issued an apology and requested the police to not drag the matter.

The complainant stated that Chandrashekaranatha Swami claimed that there was no voting power for others (non-Muslims) in Pakistan and that a similar law should be enforced to revoke the voting power of Muslims.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client negotiating to enter into Lease Deed for running the business of Event management which includes Organising Sports Events, Renting a Fixture/s to the outside events/function/weddings, storage, rooms rent and other allied activities, described in the Schedule herein, with its owner/s mentioned below, who claim to be the owner/s of the Schedule Property. Any person or persons ascertaining any right, title, Interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof and in any manner whatsoever against the Schedule Property based on the documents pertaining to the Schedule Property OR objecting for the proposed lease/development may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within 7 (Seven) days from the date of this publication and objections and/or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my client and my client will proceed to enter into a Lease Deed in respect of the below mentioned property as if there are no objections /claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Sy No. 137 measuring 01 Acre 11 Guntas situated at Gopasandra Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, and bounded on the:
East By : Colony and Govt. Land ;
West By : Land belonging to Chinnappa Reddy;
North By : Road ;
South By : Road & Land belonging to Yelappa.

ROOPA SHETTY, Advocate
Lex Situs, No.810, 'BILWAPRIYA PLATINA', 2nd Floor, 27th Main Road, HSR Layout, Sector 1, Bangalore - 560102.
Phone: 80887 31020, 9902026199; Email:info@lexsitus.com

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I Ex Hav (Opr) Dinesh S/o. Ramachandran Naik of at@ Post Kondli, TQ Siddapur, Dist-Uttarkannada, my wife name was wrongly mentioned in my Army Official Records as Smt Bhavya (Shilpa) instead of Shilpa D Naik vide affidavit dated 10-10-2024 before Government notary, court.

I, ZAIMUNI DEVI mother of 697327 B, SGT ASHOK KUMAR PANDEY resident of No. 67, Ganesha Layout, MS Palaya, Bangalore-560097 have changed my name from ZAIMUNI DEVI to LALMUNI DEVI vide affidavit dated 30/11/2024 sworn before G.P.Chaya, Bangalore

BUSINESS OFFERS

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EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

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Abhinav Jain AIR 35
Final Selection: 16 & counting
Batch Starts: Dec 15 | Admissions Dec 4
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KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Raichur Thermal Power Station)
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TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal only)

Tenders are invited from KPWD Class-III and above / Class IV and above contractors through KPP portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works: **1) No. KPCL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2300 dtd. 28.11.2024:** Providing and laying flagging concrete at fore bay 3 & 4 at RTPS. Amount put to Tender: **Rs. 23.72 lakhs.** Work Compilation period: **3 Months.** Last Date for submission of tender : **12.12.2024 upto 17.00 Hrs. For further details, Contact:** Executive Engineer (PCM-1), RTPS. Mobile: 8277502844. **2) No.KPCL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2322 dtd. 25.11.2024:** Transportation of released / damaged Railway track materials like 90lb Point & Crossings, 90lb Rails, Fish Plates/ bolts, ST/PSC sleepers & other scrap materials from Marshalling Yard area to Main Store Yard at RTPS. Amount put to Tender: **Rs. 4.63 lakhs.** Work Compilation period: **2 Months. 3)No. KPCL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2329 dtd. 26.11.2024:** Clearance of vegetation infringing the OHE lines along the track between Point No. 1 and Point No. 42 and Raichur Bye Pass line in Marshalling Yard area at RTPS. Amount put to Tender: **Rs. 2.66 lakhs.** Work Compilation period: **2 Months. For further details, Contact:** Executive Engineer (RTM), RTPS. Mobile: 9480682533. **4) No. KPCL/2024-25/PS/WORK_INDENT2265/CALL-2 dtd. 28.11.2024:** Supplying, Erection & Testing, Commissioning of Main Lighting Distribution Board (MLDB) at Admin Building of RTPS. EMD : **Rs. 52,200/-** Last Date for submission of tender : **05.12.2024 upto 17.30 Hrs. For further details, Contact:** Executive Engineer (PPS), RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar-584170, Raichur District, Karnataka State.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that, our client, Sri. Puttanna Jagadish son of late Sri. M S Puttanna, currently residing at No. 727/5, 3rd Block, 41st Cross, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru 560010, is the absolute owner of the property more fully described in the Schedule below, having acquired the same under the registered Will dated 25-08-2014 from his father late. Sri. M. S. Puttanna, and since then, he has been in peaceful possession and enjoyment as its absolute owner thereof.

Our client further represents that the original of the (i) Memo (Possession Certificate) dated 05.02.1957 issued by the City Improvement Trust Board ("CITB") and (ii) Sale Deed 29.04.1970 (registered as document No.1525/1970-71 of Book-I, Volume 244 at pages 116-118 registered on 17.07.1970 in the office of the Sub-Registrar Srirampuram) executed by CITB, both in favour of Sri. M S Puttanna ("Documents") pertaining to the Schedule Property have been either lost or misplaced. In this regard, a police complaint has been lodged with the Rajajinagar Police Station on 02.12.2024, requesting the jurisdictional police to return the documents in the event of the same being either traced or someone delivering the same to the police.

Any person/s finding the Documents may please hand over the same to the undersigned, or if there are any claims based on the said Documents, shall write to the undersigned within **seven (7) days** from the issuance of this public notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing presently bearing E-Katha No.5430962043 (old PID No.22-49-5), issued by BBMP, with Municipal No. 727/5 (earlier BDA Site No.727), situated at 3rd Block, 41st Cross Rajajinagar, Bengaluru 560010, Ward No. 108 (Srirama Mandira) with structure standing thereon and bounded as follows:
On or towards the East by : Property bearing No. 728/4
On or towards the West by : Property bearing No. 726/6
On or towards the North by : Road
On or towards the South by : Property bearing No. 708
Along with all appurtenance, easements, trees, stones well, water recourses, edifices and further right of access etc

Harish Sathya, Sathya and Co.
Advocates and Legal Consultants
#57, 1st floor, 7th Cross, Central Street,
Kumara Park West, Bangalore 560020. Ph: 080-41158500
E-mail: harish@sathyaandco.com.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (Through KPP Portal Only) (2nd Call)

BWSSB invites Tenders from Registered agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560 009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount Put to Tender(Rs.) / EMD Amount(Rs.)	Last date & Time for submission of tender	Date and time for opening of tender
1	East-2	BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1497	Rs. 76,38,000/- / Rs. 1,52,760/-	11.12.2024 upto 4.00 p.m.	12.12.2024 at 4.00 p.m.
2		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1483	Rs. 77,14,000/- / Rs. 1,54,280/-		
3		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1549	Rs.79,03,000/- / Rs. 1,58,060/-		
4		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1552	Rs. 79,03,000/- / Rs. 1,58,060/-		
5		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1551	Rs. 79,03,000/- / Rs. 1,58,060/-		
6		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1494	Rs.79,41,000/- / Rs. 1,58,820/-		
7		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1461	Rs. 54,04,000/- / Rs. 11,00,500/-		
8		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1460	Rs. 54,04,000/- / Rs. 1,08,080/-		
9		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1480	Rs. 75,38,000/- / Rs. 1,50,760/-		
10		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1545	Rs. 66,74,000/- / Rs. 1,33,480/-		
11		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1459	Rs. 50,24,000/- / Rs. 1,00,480/-		
12		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1501	Rs. 69,67,000/- / Rs. 1,39,340/-		
13		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1539	Rs. 79,03,000/- / Rs. 1,58,060/-		
14		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1508 (Reserved for SC)	Rs. 69,67,000/- / Rs. 69,670/-		
15		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1463 (Reserved for SC)	Rs. 51,46,000/- / Rs. 52,000/-		
16		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1543	Rs. 79,03,000/- / Rs. 1,58,060/-		
17		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1526	Rs. 55,08,000/- / Rs. 1,10,160/-		
18		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1541 (Reserved for SC)	Rs. 79,03,000/- / Rs. 79,030/-		
19		BWSSB/EE(E)-2/TO/AE/4303/2024-25 DATED:02.12.2024 Indent No. : 1441 (Reserved for SC)	Rs. 66,35,000/- / Rs. 66,350/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (East-2)

The details regarding the tender and participating in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/JA/3569/2024-25

KEYWORD

ISTOCKPHOTO

Proudhon's theory of mutualism: a critique of capitalism and authoritarianism

Mutualism is seen as a form of libertarian socialism, balancing individual freedom with collective well-being. It offers a radical alternative to both capitalism and state socialism, promoting voluntary cooperation and mutual respect

Rebecca Rose Varghese

Mutualism is an economic and social theory that emphasises voluntary cooperation, reciprocity, and the fair exchange of goods and services. It advocates for a society where individuals and communities engage in cooperative ownership, decentralising and collectively managing productive resources like land or tools for the benefit of all. Such systems would be free from central authority and capitalist exploitation.

While property itself is not inherently exploitative in this theory, ownership of tools or land is acceptable, provided it does not lead to exploitation of others.

Unlike capitalism, which profits from labour exploitation, mutualism envisions a system where individuals and communities own resources for personal and collective benefit. It also promotes the idea of workers controlling the means of production through cooperatives or other voluntary associations, ensuring that production is driven by need, not profit. This model seeks to eliminate hierarchical power structures and promote equality and fairness in economic relations.

Origins of the theory

The term "mutualism" was coined by French philosopher Pierre-Joseph Proudhon in the mid-19th century as part of his broader critique of capitalism and authoritarianism. While Proudhon is often remembered for his declaration, "Property is theft!" in his seminal work *What is Property?* (1840), his philosophy was more complex. Mutualism was not a call for the outright abolition of property but for its reimagining into a system that serves collective well-being and fairness.

Proudhon was influenced by a secret society of weavers, known as the 'Mutualists', who he encountered during his time in Lyon in 1843. These workers advocated for worker-led cooperative production, envisioning a society where factories and resources could be run by associations of workers. They believed in transforming society through peaceful economic action rather than violent revolution, challenging the centralised political traditions of Jacobinism. Deeply inspired by their ideas, Proudhon adopted the term "mutualism" as a tribute to these working-class visionaries. His adaptation of their ideals sought to build a decentralised society where cooperation and reciprocity replaced exploitation and domination.

Mutualism and property

Proudhon's approach to property is central to mutualist philosophy. While he condemned capitalist property for enabling exploitation and monopolisation, he did not call for the complete elimination of ownership. Instead, he distinguished between "property," which allowed control over others, and "possession," where individuals could use resources for personal benefit without infringing on others' freedoms. This distinction is crucial to understanding mutualism, as it emphasises a form of ownership based on usage rather than accumulation and profit.

Mutualism rejected property rights imposed by the state that perpetuated inequality and exploitation. It advocated for a decentralised system of voluntary and equitable exchanges rooted in reciprocity. Mechanisms like worker cooperatives and shared resources were central to aligning ownership with fairness and collective well-being. By balancing individual freedom with collective solidarity, Proudhon's theory sought to challenge the entrenched hierarchies of both capitalism and the state.

Mutualism and anarchism

Rejecting state-enforced property rights, mutualism also connects closely with anarchism, particularly in the debate between individualist and social anarchism. Individual anarchists emphasise personal autonomy and freedom, focusing on the liberation of the individual from state control, while social anarchists advocate for the collective management of resources and the organisation of society to promote equality and fairness. Proudhon's work occupies a unique space between these two schools of thought.

While some early anarchists saw mutualism as a form of individualist anarchism, emphasising personal freedom and the right to possess one's tools and land, others interpreted it as a more socialist form of anarchism, in which mutual cooperation and the collective management of resources were key. The tension between these interpretations arose from Proudhon's view that the state, by its very nature, was coercive and counterproductive to the freedom of the individual. However, Proudhon was not opposed to all forms of collective organisation. He argued that a mutualist society could be organised without a state, based on cooperative principles where people freely enter into contracts and mutual exchanges, thus blending both individual freedom and collective responsibility.

The collective and the individual

The emphasis on cooperative associations, mutual credit systems, and workers' control over production demonstrates the connection between mutualism and the collective. These ideas aim to foster economic and social environments based on mutual aid and cooperation, rather than competition and exploitation. Mutualism is also inherently tied to the human need for cooperation. By organising society and the economy on the basis of shared interests and reciprocity, mutualism seeks to build a society where individuals are free to pursue their own interests while maintaining a sense of community and mutual respect.

In *General Labour History of Africa: Workers, Employers and Governments, 20th-21st Centuries,* Stefano Bellucci and Andreas Eckert discuss how traditional African societies embodied mutualistic principles. In these communities, communal land ownership and collective labour were the norms, with resources shared and production aimed at the collective good. This reflects mutualism's focus on reciprocity and equitable distribution. The chapter on African mutualism contrasts it with neoliberalism, noting that mutualism promotes shared ownership, fair compensation, and cooperation, while neoliberalism fosters inequality. It also explores the role of governments in either supporting or hindering mutualistic practices across the continent.

Mutualism was also seen as a form of libertarian socialism, balancing individual freedom with collective well-being. It offered a radical alternative to both capitalism and state socialism, promoting voluntary cooperation and mutual respect without centralised power or hierarchy.

Critiques of the theory

While mutualism holds significant revolutionary potential, it has faced critiques on several fronts. One major critique is that its reliance on small-scale property ownership may not sufficiently challenge the capitalist system's broader structural inequalities. Critics argue that mutualism fails to address the concentration of wealth and power that is intrinsic to modern capitalist economies. Furthermore, some question the feasibility of creating an egalitarian society based on voluntary cooperation, suggesting that it may be too idealistic or difficult to implement on a large scale.

Marxist critics contend that mutualism does not sufficiently address the core issues of capitalism, such as exploitation and inequality, and fails to dismantle capitalist relations of production. They argue that Proudhon's defence of small property owners and opposition to collectivism overlooks the realities of class struggle, where small producers are squeezed out by larger corporations.

Despite these criticisms, mutualism remains a radical theory that offers an alternative to both capitalist exploitation and authoritarianism. While it may not have fully resolved the challenges of inequality and exploitation, it continues to be a significant concept in the history of anarchist and socialist thought.

The writer is a freelance journalist.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

The second Test between India and Australia, at the Adelaide Oval, starts on December 6. Here is a quiz on the 22 Day and Night Test matches played so far

Soorya Prakash. N

QUESTION 1
Which country has hosted the most number of Day and Night Test matches after Australia?

QUESTION 2
Which non-Test playing country has hosted Day and Night Test matches?

QUESTION 3
Which country has played in most Day and Night Test matches after Australia?

QUESTION 4
Who has scored the most runs and most hundreds in the 22 Day and Night Test matches held so far?

QUESTION 5
Who has picked up the most wickets in the 22 Day and Night Test matches held so far?

QUESTION 6
Who holds the best bowling figures in an innings?

QUESTION 7
Who is the only bowler to pick up five or more wickets in each innings of a Day and Night Test match and thus holds the best bowling figures in a test match?

QUESTION 8
What is common to the Day and Night Test matches held between South Africa and Zimbabwe at Port Elizabeth in December 2017 and between India and England at Ahmedabad in February 2021?

QUESTION 9
Ashad Shafiq in December 2016 and Jason Holder in June 2018 won Player of the Match award in the respective Day and Night Test matches. What is the connection between their achievements?

Visual question:
Identify the players and the connection between their feats. AP, AFP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This physicist was the scientific leader of Chicago Pile-1. **Ans: Enrico Fermi**
2. This person was the only woman present when the Chicago Pile-1 went critical. **Ans: Leona Woods**
3. Otto Frisch and this scientist explained a phenomenon in 1938. **Ans: Lise Meitner**
4. American efforts to develop an atomic weapon succeeded because they realised the graphite shouldn't have any atoms of this particular element. **Ans: Boron**
5. Until 1957, the University of Chicago had a football field called the _____ _____. **Ans: Stagg Field**
Visual: Name the world's second artificial nuclear reactor. **Ans: X-10 Graphite Reactor**
Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Bharath Viswanathan| Navtosh Arun| Arun Kumar Singh| Parimal Das

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
Upendran

"Tendulkar is such an excellent cricketer. I often compare myself to him."

"Really? Do you think you're as good a player?"

"Certainly not. He's far superior."

"In that case, you're not comparing yourself 'to' him, but 'with' him."

"You mean there's a difference between 'compare to' and compare with'?"

"Yes. When you say that you're comparing something or someone 'to' something or someone, it means that you think they are in the same class. You're suggesting that there is a likeness between the two objects or persons."

"So when I compare myself to Tendulkar, it implies that I think I'm as good as Tendulkar."

"Exactly. Here are a few more examples. Rajeev's running style is compared often to a cheetah's. As a writer, he is frequently compared to Wodehouse."

"So 'compare to' indicates similarities. What about 'compare with'?"

"When you look for both similarities and differences, you compare something with something else."

"I see. When you compare X 'with' Y, it means they are in the same league?"

"No. it doesn't. X can be better or worse than Y. You can, for example, compare Milton's style with Wordsworth's. You can compare the media in India with the media in the United States. Barzun captures the distinction between 'compare to' and 'compare with' beautifully. 'Any writer can compare himself with Shakespeare and discover how far he falls short: if he compares himself to Shakespeare, then he had better think again'."

'That's a wonderful example. I think I'll copy it down and give it to Gopal. He thinks he's the next Shakespeare."

"He does?"

"He sure does. That good-for-nothing thinks he knows..."

"Stop it. Stop it. I don't want you to bad-mouth Gopal."

"Bad-mouth Gopal! What does it mean?"

"If you bad-mouth someone, it means you deliberately say uncomplimentary things about him in order to damage his reputation. Because of intense competition, cinema stars often tend to bad-mouth one another."

"And you are one of those who think it's not good to bad-mouth people."

"That's right. Besides, why is it that every time Gopal's name is mentioned, you fly off the handle?"

"Fly off the handle?"

" 'Fly off the handle' is an informal expression meaning to 'suddenly and completely lose your temper'. Whenever his team lost, the coach flew off the handle. When Saritha heard she hadn't got the raise, she flew off the handle."

"And whenever I see Gopal or hear his name mentioned, I fly off the handle."

Published in The Hindu on April 12, 1994.

Word of the day

Victuals:
a stock or supply of foods; a source of materials to nourish the body; any substance that can be used as food

Synonyms: aliment, nourishment, nutrition, sustenance, provisions

Usage: *I cooked up some victuals for them.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/victualspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈvɪtəlz/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Ten additional seats for State students at NLSIU

This is in addition to the horizontal reservation of 25% of the total intake already in place

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Law School of India University in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

Starting from the 2025-26 academic year, the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru, will reserve an additional 10 seats for Karnataka students in its BA LLB (Hons) programme. This is in addition to the horizontal reservation of 25% of the total intake already in place.

The total intake will increase from 300 to 310, with the 10 additional seats being filled through the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) based on merit. With this addition, a total of 85 seats will be reserved for Karnataka students under the horizontal reservation from the 2025-26 academic year.

The decision follows a proposal from Bangalore University, which requested NLSIU to reserve 10 seats for local students in exchange for allotting an additional seven acres of land on its Jnana Bharathi campus for NLSIU's expansion. The proposal was discussed with Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Higher Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar before being finalised.

Since implementing the 25% horizontal reservation for Karnataka students in 2021, NLSIU has allocated 43 seats in 2021-22, 78 in 2022-23, and 115 in 2023-24 across its BA LLB (Hons), LLB, and LLM programmes.

Study certificates
To qualify as a Karnataka student, candidates must have studied for at least 10 years in a recognised educational institution in the State. They must provide study certificates from accredited institutions attesting to this during counselling.

Students who have not completed 10 years of education in Karnataka may still be eligible under specific categories, like children of defence personnel or ex-servicemen whose hometown was declared as Karnataka at the time of joining service; children of State government employees who served outside Karnataka during the candidate's period of education outside the State, and children of All India Service officers (IAS/IPS/IFS) from the Karnataka cadre.

If the candidate studied in Karnataka for only three years, their parents must have served outside Karnataka for at least seven years. If a candidate has not studied in Karnataka continuously for at least one year, they must prove that their parents were serving outside Karnataka for at least 10 years, corresponding to their own period of study outside.

Belagavi girl to get bravery award for saving woman from suicide

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Shirsha Vishwanath Savvaseri, a ninth standard student from Balika Adarsh Vidyalaya in Belagavi, is among those chosen for the Hoysala and Keladi Channamma Bravery Award.

The award given by the Department of Women and Child Development includes a cash prize of ₹10,000 and a citation.

Counselling
The girl counselled a woman who was planning to end her life in Belagavi in August this year.

She spotted the woman and her children walking towards a railway track.

She stopped them and sought the help of others in convincing her of the need to abandon her suicide attempt.

Minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar, who appreciated the timely action of the girl, felicitated her then.

(Those in distress or those having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 or KIRAN Ph.: 1800-599-0019 for help.)

Principals of more than 60 Moulana Azad Model Schools issued notices

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

A file photo of a Moulana Azad Model School. As many as 250 English-medium Moulana Azad Model Schools function under the Minority Welfare Department across Karnataka.

The Minority Welfare Department of Karnataka has issued notices to the principals of more than 60 Moulana Azad Model Schools whose students scored below the State average (73.4%) in the SSLC exam 2024, holding them directly responsible for the fall in results.

The department has warned that disciplinary action will be taken as per the Karnataka Civil Services Rules if a written explanation is not submitted within seven days of the notice.

Principals of Moulana Azad Model Schools have objected to this action of the department and have requested immediate withdrawal of the disciplinary action notices.

Why this notice
There are 250 English-medium Moulana Azad Model Schools functioning under the Minority Welfare Department across Karnataka, with classes 6 to 10 being taught in 225 schools and classes 6 to II PUC in 25 schools.

This year, compared to schools under the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL), Maulana Azad Model Schools have recorded the lowest results in SSLC exam. The results of many schools have not crossed 20%, and the results of most schools are less than 50%.

In this context, the department had issued show cause notices in June 2024 to the principals of schools that scored results below the State average.

The principal of a Moulana Azad Model School said, "In the show cause notice issued by the department, we had given an explanation about the reasons for the decline in SSLC results. All the teachers are collectively responsible for the decline in results."

Shortage of teachers
The principals have complained that the main reason for the decline in results is the shortage of permanent teachers and lack of basic facilities.

"The government has sanctioned a total of 1,750 teaching posts, including 250 principals and 1,500 teachers, for 250 schools in Karnataka. But out of these, only 100 principals and 600 teacher posts have been filled. The remaining 900 teacher posts are vacant. The work is being done by guest teachers. We have been given the additional responsibility of schools where the post of principal is vacant. In addition, we are handling the responsibility of the principals of PUC colleges. Lack of basic facilities is common in our schools. The posts of Hindi teachers, Physical Education teachers, and Second Division Assistant and Group 'D' posts are not granted," said another principal.

Some principals said that the SSLC examination reform measures taken by the government of Karnataka this year were one of the reasons for the decline in results.

"This year, the examination proceedings were webcasted in all examination centres to prevent examination malpractice. Due to this new system, children got scared and did not write the examination properly. Hence, the results have fallen across Karnataka. However, DSEL has not taken any disciplinary action against the teachers and headmasters for the decline in result," said another principal.

"As per the rules, the department is not allowed to issue disciplinary notices holding principals solely responsible for the decline in SSLC results. Therefore, we will request the department to withdraw the notices immediately. If they are not withdrawn, we will approach the court," said one of the principals.

Jeelani H. Mokashi, Director, Directorate of Minorities, told *The Hindu*, "We are worried that many Moulana Azad schools have obtained results below 20% in SSLC exam. We have felicitated the principals of the schools that have recorded good results Principals cannot shirk their responsibility. Therefore, the notice has been issued to warn them."

'Trackers dog squad training centre' inaugurated at Bandipur

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The dogs will detect wildlife offences such as poaching, illegal timber felling etc.

The Forest Department has initiated a 'Trackers dog squad training centre' in Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR), which was inaugurated on Monday.

The centre has been established at Melukamanahalli administrative block area of BTR and has 12 kennels and one storeroom for keeping dog feed, medicines and other items.

It was inaugurated by M. Malathipriya, Conservator of Forests (Mysuru Circle), and P. Ramesh Kumar, Conservator of Forests (Project Tiger).

Training
Mr. Ramesh Kumar said 10 Belgian Melenois breed pups – 2 per each tiger reserve of Karnataka – would be trained for 10 months and each dog would have two employees attached to it.

They would stay at Bandipur for 10 months and undergo training. After the training, they would be sent to their respective tiger reserves (Bandipur, Nagarahole, Bhadra, BRT, and Kali Tiger Reserve) and deployed to detect any forest and wildlife offences such as poaching, illegal timber felling etc.

These Wildlife Sniffer & Wildlife Offence Tracking dogs would help track forest offences and this initiative of the Forest Department was a first in the country in any tiger reserve and would help in developing trackers dog squad in the State, said Mr. Ramesh Kumar. Earlier, the Forest Department had received sniffer dogs from TRAFFIC WWF – India and they were trained for seven to eight months at Basic Training Centre – Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force (BTC-ITBP), Panchkula, Haryana.

Bandipur had "sniffer dog Rana which had helped crack many forest-related offences and died last year due to age-related ailments, after eight years of commendable service in the detection and prevention of wildlife-related offence at Bandipur Tiger Reserve," Mr. Ramesh Kumar added. At present Bandipur had 'Drona' which was deployed in 2023.

Wildlife crime
"This idea of 'Wildlife Offence Tracking Dog Training Centre' was conceived with the objective of tracking and detecting wildlife crime and wildlife crime prevention, and the agency involved in this activity to help the Karnataka Forest Department is Amruth Dog Guru Services, Bengaluru," said Mr. Ramesh Kumar.

II PU exam timetable

- **March 1:** Kannada and Arabic
- **March 3:** Mathematics, Education, Logic, Business Studies
- **March 4:** Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Marathi, Urdu, Sanskrit, French
- **March 5:** Political Science and Statistics
- **March 7:** History and Physics
- **March 8:** Hindi
- **March 10:** Optional Kannada, Accountancy, Geology, Home Science
- **March 12:** Psychology, Chemistry, and Basic Maths
- **March 13:** Economics
- **March 15:** English
- **March 17:** Geography and Biology
- **March 18:** Sociology, Electronics and Computer Science
- **March 19:** Hindustani Music, Information Technology, Retail, Automobile, Health Care, Beauty and Wellness

SSLC exam timetable

- **March 20:** First Language Kannada, Telugu, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, English, and Sanskrit
- **March 22:** Social Science
- **March 24:** Second Language English and Kannada
- **March 27:** Mathematics
- **March 29:** Third Language Hindi, Kannada, English, Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Sanskrit, Konkani, and Tulu
- **April 2:** Science

DAR head constable accused of sexually abusing two minor sons

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

A 45-year-old head constable attached to the District Armed Reserved (DAR) police has been accused of sexually abusing his two minor sons in Kalaburagi.

According to a complaint lodged by the constable's wife at University Police Station, the accused, a resident of Sri Nagar area in Kalaburagi, continuously abused his two sons, aged 16 and 12.

She accused her husband of beating both their sons with a leather belt and iron rods, lathi and hammer and forcibly touching their private parts.

The incident came to light when the victims contacted Childline India (1098) on November 30.

THE HINDU IN SCHOOL PRESENTS SCHOOL BUZZ
A Newspaper exclusively curated for School Students

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATED

BGS National Public School celebrated Founder's Day and "BGS UTSAV 2024" with a vibrant showcase of talent and cultural heritage. The event was graced by His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Maha Swamiji and Revered Sri Sri Dr. Prakashnath Swamiji, along with dignitaries including Shri HD Kumaraswamy, Shri Yediyurappa, and Shri DK Shivakumar. Students performed captivating semi-classical, folk, and contemporary dances, while teachers delivered an award-winning synchronized dance performance. The event highlighted the school's dedication to holistic education, celebrating academic excellence, cultural appreciation, and artistic expression with remarkable enthusiasm and creativity.

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATED

SFS Academy celebrated Children's Day with joy and enthusiasm, honouring the spirit of childhood and nurturing young minds. The event began with a warm welcome and an inspiring speech by the chief guest, Rev. Fr. Vijoy, motivating students to strive for excellence. Teachers captivated the audience with cultural performances, including songs, skits, and dances, creating a delightful and memorable experience. The celebration concluded with a heartfelt message from the Principal, leaving students with lasting inspiration and happiness.

INSIGHTFUL CONVERSATIONS - A PODCAST

The Samhita Academy presents Insightful Conversations – A Podcast, featuring Drithi Das of Grade 10, who successfully concluded the first season of her thought-provoking series, Let's Talk About It. This engaging podcast connects teenagers, parents, and school authorities, addressing critical issues affecting young minds.
In the season finale, Drithi hosted a profound conversation with the Principal, Ms. K. S. Jyothi, exploring topics like disobedience, bullying, self-awareness, and the importance of roots in shaping identity. Ms. Jyothi's reflections, combining her roles as a principal, mother, and daughter, offered valuable insights on empathy, identity, and the power of open dialogue.

For Subscription related queries, please contact Raghavendra Desai:
Handphone:+91 9986196254 | Email: desai.rnb@thehindu.co.in

TAMIL NADU POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LTD
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
NORTH CIRCLE
No.1&7, Inspector quarters, PGR Line, Behind CPO Building,
Annadhanapatty, Linemedu, Salem – 636 006.
email id: senctnphcl@gmail.com &
spndengrnc.tnphcl@tn.gov.in, Phone: 0427-2903010

e- tender Invitation for Bids No: 16/ 2024-2025 Datet: 02.12.2024

Name of Work	Approximate value of work in Lakhs
1. Construction of Men Prison, Common areas for Men Prison, 111 Nos. of Prison Staff Quarters, Cement Concrete Road and Security Perimeter Wall (for Men Prison) for Coimbatore Central Prison at Bilichi Village, Coimbatore North Taluk in Coimbatore District (Phase - I) (SE/NC/DB/3376/2024)	Rs.15678.18 + GST @ 18%

1) For Tender document, visit **https://tntenders.gov.in**
2) Date and Time for downloading and submission of tender documents: **16.12.2024 from 12.00 Noon to 20.01.2025 upto 6.00 P.M**
3) Date and time of opening of the e-tender : **22.01.2025 at 11.15 A.M**
4) Detailed Tender Notice is available in the website **www.tnphc.com & www.tnpolice.gov.in**

DIPR/ 5266 /TENDER/2024
Superintending Engineer, North Circle, TNPHC Ltd

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT ENGINEERING WING
(Office of the Executive Engineer, H & F W D Engg., Division, Fort Road, Dharwad- 580 008)
Phone No:-0836 – 2955800 (E-mail: eehfwedvndwd1@gmail.com)

No: EE/H&FW Engg./Div/Dwd/Tender/Notification-4210-386/ 624 /2024-25 Date: 30.11.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, H&FWD, Engg., Division, Dharwad invites tender from contractors registered in KPWD in double cover system as per KTPP Act 1999 & Rules 2000 through KPP Portal for the following works.

Sl. No	Name of Work	Est. amount (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD amount (Rs. in lakhs)	Class of contractor	Period of completion (including monsoon)	Category of contractor
1	Up-gradation of basic infrastructure to TLH at Ranebennur in Haveri District	63.54	1.27	Class III & above	6 Months	General
2	Up-gradation of basic infrastructure to TLH at Savanur in Haveri District	63.27	1.27	Class III & above	6 Months	General
3	Up-gradation of basic infrastructure to TLH at Byadagi in Haveri District	84.73	1.69	Class III & above	6 Months	General
4	Up-gradation of basic infrastructure to TLH at Indi in Vijayapur District	72.78	1.46	Class III & above	6 Months	General

Calendar events:
Last date for receipt of tender : **09.12.2024 up to 16.00 hrs**
Date of opening of technical bid : **10.12.2024 up to 16.30 hrs**
Date of opening of financial bid : **11.12.2024 up to 16.50 hrs**

The tender details can be downloaded from the KPP platform (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) Tenders shall be submitted electronically, EMD, Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested contractors shall register on the KPP platform to participate in this tender.
NOTE:- (1) All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire Tender process, rejection of bids/individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. **(2)** Henceforth, any changes in the schedule will not be published through newspapers and further changes in respect of this tender notification will be uploaded on KPP portal only.

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/673/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2024–25
Sd/ Executive Engineer, H&FWD Engg. Division,Dharwad.

BJP Central Disciplinary Committee issues show-cause notice to Yatnal

He has been given 10 days to reply; the senior MLA has taken the lead in organising a parallel campaign on the waqf row in Karnataka and has been publicly attacking veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa and his son, party State president B.Y. Vijayendra

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BJP Central Disciplinary Committee on Sunday issued a show-cause notice to Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal, "rebel" leader and senior MLA, for allegedly violating party discipline.

The letter dated December 1 and signed by committee member-secretary Om Pathak has given a 10-day deadline for Mr. Yatnal, who previously served as Union Minister of State, to show cause as to why disciplinary action should not be taken against him.

This is being seen as a setback to the group of "rebel" leaders who are in Delhi now under the leadership of Mr. Yatnal to meet the Central leadership on various issues and also to submit an initial report on the waqf row.

It may be noted that Mr. Yatnal has been publicly attacking BJP veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa and his son B.Y. Vijayendra, who is also State president, for some time.

Rallying point

What had caused concern for the party leadership was that Mr. Yatnal, an outspoken leader, had become a rallying point for several other disgruntled leaders. This group has also embarked upon a parallel campaign on the waqf row.

Incidentally, the rebel leaders including Mr. Yatnal reached Delhi on Sunday night to meet Central leaders. Among other issues, they were planning to submit their preliminary report on the waqf campaign. Their visit was preceded by that of Mr. Vijayendra who has reportedly drawn the attention of the Central leaders on dissident activities in the State.

The show-cause notice says: "Your continuing tirade against the State leadership and your defiance of party directives, and making public pronouncements and stance in contravention of party's official stand on all matters of political and public importance has been reported in media and different party forums."

The notice says that several show-cause notices had been issued to Mr. Yatnal earlier. "It is matter of great concern that despite having been issued show-cause notices several times in the past and your assurance of good conduct, the act of indiscipline continues unabated," the notice observes.

"Given your seniority and long standing in the party, the Central Disciplinary Committee took a lenient view on the explanations submitted by you in the past," the show-cause notice said.

It concluded by maintaining that: "False and veiled allegations levelled by you against the party leaders together with defiance of the official stand of the party on matters of political and public importance constitute a serious breach of party discipline."

Vijayapura MLA shrugs off notice, continues his tirade

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The show-cause notice issued to Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal appeared to have little impact as he stated that he was not scared and continued to attack veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa and his son B.Y. Vijayendra.

"I will respond to the notice, while also presenting facts regarding the current state of the BJP in Karnataka. My commitment to the fight for Hindutva, opposition to corruption, waqf-related issues, and dynastic politics will remain," Mr. Yatnal posted on social media.

However, interacting with presspersons in Delhi, Mr. Yatnal said he was yet to officially get the show-cause notice and even suspected that it could be fake.

"I have not received the notice officially. How can I believe what has come on WhatsApp? Earlier, I was served three notices. I responded to the first two, and did not respond to the third thinking that it could be fake. The third notice had also given me 10 days to respond," Mr. Yatnal said.

He said that the notice should come via registered post or to his official email. "(BJP State unit president) Mr. Vijayendra is a smart man. Congress leader B.K. Hariprasad has alleged that he signed hundreds of files on behalf of his father, Mr. Yediyurappa, when he was the Chief Minister."

Basanagouda R. Patil Yatnal addressing presspersons in New Delhi on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

> I will respond to the notice, while also presenting facts regarding the current state of the BJP in Karnataka. My commitment to the fight for Hindutva and opposition to corruption, waqf-related issues, and dynastic politics will remain.

Stating that he had nothing to fear, Mr. Yatnal said: "Mr. Yediyurappa and Mr. Vijayendra have to fear because they face serious allegations. They have surrendered to the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister. Mr. Vijayendra is indulging in adjustment politics. He is not talking against Mr. Shivakumar though he faces serious allegations."

Calling Mr. Vijayendra a "small boy", Mr. Yatnal said that he had been made State president out of a fear of his father.

"Mr. Vijayendra is not working properly. Apart from the padayatra on the MUDA issue, he has not done anything. When violence broke out during a Ganesha idol immersion in Mandya district, he did not go. Instead, he sent a team. Even for the waqf issue, he formed teams. He wants to be on good terms with everyone. The fight is against such things," he said.

Ramesh Jarkiholi, Mr. Yatnal's supporter and a key member of the "rebel" group, too attacked Mr. Vijayendra by accusing him of forcing MLAs from SC/ST and OBC communities to support him and of threatening them that they would not get party ticket for the next elections. "No Lingayat or Vokkaliga MLA is supporting Mr. Vijayendra," he said.

On his part, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok maintained that all issues would be sorted out by Central leaders in about a week.

Centenary celebrations of 1924 Congress session in Belagavi on Dec. 26, 27

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 1924 session of the Congress in Belgaum was presided over by Mahatma Gandhi. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The centenary celebrations of the 1924 Belgaum session of the Congress presided over by Mahatma Gandhi will be held in Belagavi on December 26 and 27 in a grand manner.

A meeting of the celebration committee, chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, has decided to hold a meeting of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) on December 26 in Belagavi and a public meeting on December 27.

It was decided to release a special stamp to mark the centenary year of the Congress session in the border town.

The meeting has decided to organise programmes throughout the next year under the banner "Gandhi Bharata".

On the lines of the Mysuru Dasara, it was decided to decorate 32 km of roads and 30 circles in Belagavi city with lights.

A decision was taken to develop the Veera Soudha where the Congress session was held in 1924 by establishing a library and a Gandhi statue.

A decision was to install memorial pillars in 120 places which Gandhiji visited in Karnataka. It was also decided to bring out the Kannada version of the movie *Gandhi* directed by Richard Attenborough and to set up an photo gallery depicting the 1924 Congress session and freedom movement at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi.

Hubballi airport is most profitable among AAI-run airports in State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Hubballi airport is the most profitable airport in the State among the four aerodromes controlled and maintained by the Airports Authority of India (AAI). Karnataka has nine airports of which the AAI runs four: Belagavi, Hubballi, Kalaburagi, and Mysuru.

During the financial year 2023-24, Hubballi airport, with a revenue of ₹19.37 crore, was the most profitable, followed by Belagavi, which generated a revenue of ₹14.99 crore. The Mysuru and the Kalaburgi airports made a revenue of ₹9.26 crore and ₹2.26 crore respectively.

The details of the above revenue earned by airports were given by Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol, replying to an unstarred question on the details of revenue earned from airports which are under the direct control and maintenance of the AAI during the ongoing session of Parliament.

Apart from the four AAI-run airports in the State, Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru is operated on a public-private partnership mode, the Mangaluru International Airport has been leased by the AAI to Adani Airport Holdings Limited, the Shivamogga airport is run by the State government, the one in Bidar is a defence airport, and JSW Steel owns the Jindal Vijayanagar Airport.

KIA was the most profitable airport in the country, earning a profit of ₹528 crore in 2022-23.

High Court faults govt. for keeping doctor's request in cold storage

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government was not justified in keeping in cold storage a request of a speciality physician, serving in the government, seeking permission to go on deputation on study leave to pursue a three-year super speciality course in cardiology after securing a seat through the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Super Speciality) 2023 ranking, said the High Court.

"The service jurisprudence in any civilised jurisdiction, bears abundant testimony to the State policy in public employment for bestowing increments/allowances/encomia to the civil servants who acquire higher educational qualifications during employment," the court observed.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Krishna S. Dixit and Justice C.M. Joshi passed the order while dismissing the government's petition, which challenged the State Administrative Tribunal's August order.

The tribunal had directed the Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, to permit Madhu Kumar M.H, who had already possessed a postgraduate degree in general medicine, to pursue super speciality course as per the provisions of the Karnataka Civil Services (Deputation to Higher Studies and Training Leave to Group-A Officer) Rules, 2008.

Rejecting the government's claim that there was a right to an employee to seek deputation for value addition, the court said there is some discretion with the government in matters of value addition deputation, but such discretion has to be exercised according to rules of reason and justice. The court also noted that the Commissioner for Health and Family Welfare had recommended Dr. Madhu's request for deputation/study leave for pursuing the super speciality course for the reason that a specialist in cardiology would be required in future at district hospitals and as such the course selected by Dr. Madhu is in public interest.

The government, before the tribunal, had claimed that there is no provision for study leave for speciality courses as this facility is available only for postgraduate or diploma courses.

However, the tribunal had rejected this argument also while pointing out that Dr. Madhu was not seeking permission to study under in-service quota but on a rank that he had secured in open category in NEET-2023 of super speciality courses.

Convict gets 90-day parole to oversee agricultural work on father's land

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has granted 90-day parole to a 36-year-old convict to oversee agricultural activities on a land which is in the name of his father, as there is no male member in his family to take up this responsibility.

The court also noted that the petitioner, Chandra, a resident of Sididevarahalli of Maralavadi hobli in Kanakapura taluk of Ramanagara district, did not avail himself of parole during the past 11 years of imprisonment.

Justice Hemant Chandangoudar passed the order recently while allowing the petition, in which Chandra had questioned a decision of the prison authorities who in September rejected his plea for grant of parole. The petitioner is serving time in a murder case.

Meanwhile, the court directed that the petitioner should not engage in any unlawful activities during parole and mark his attendance at a jurisdictional police station on the first day of every week.

Giving liberty to the prison authorities to impose any other conditions as per law, the court made it clear the parole would be cancelled automatically in case of violations of any of the conditions.

Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Kolar Division, Kolar-563101.
e-mail: eepwdkolar07@gmail.com, website:www.kpwd.gov.in
e-portal: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
Phone No: 08152-222022, Fax No: 08152-227443

e-tender Notification – K.W. 4
Short Term Re-Tender notification No: 30/2024-25 Dt. 29.11.2024

Tender is invited through e-Procurement for the works in the limits of Kolar Taluk, Kolar District Public Works Department from the Registered Contractors under **H/A: 5054- MDR Improvements Amount put to tender: Rs. 393.07 Lakhs EMD Amount: Rs.5.90 Lakhs Period for completion of work: 9 months.**

Contractors may download the tender documents KW- 4 from Karnataka State Procurement portal **(viz., htpp://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Filled in tenders shall be uploaded on or **before 4.00 PM. on 9.12.2024** through Karnataka State Procurement portal. Tender received will be **opened after 4.30 PM on 10.12.2024** in e-Procurement. Further details regarding the works and also for details about this tender notification please contact kpp portal and also you may contact this office during working hours.

Note: Any changes in this Notification will be published in kpp portal only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Kolar.
DIPR/KOLAR/R.O.No.352/KSMC&A/2024-25

KALYANA KARNATAKA ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Central Offices, Kalaburagi : Stores & Purchase Department,
Sarige Sadana, Main Road, Gulbarga-585 102.
Tel. & Fax No. 08472-260502, Mobile No. 77606 86172 (COSP), 77609 92029 (S.O).

No. KKT/CO/COSP/ 08 /2024-25 Date: 02.12.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER INVITING NOTICE (THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY)

Tenders through KPP portal (pre-qualification & commercial) are invited for supply / service of following items.
1) Tender No. & date : **G-41/02.12.24,** 2) Tender Nomenclature : **Selection of an agency for providing 725 nos. of Heavy Passenger Vehicle Drivers to KKRTC,** 3) Value : **Rs. 16.90 Crores,** 4) Last date for submission of tender : **19.12.2024 at 15:00 hrs.**
All the details of Tender, Registration, Tender form documents etc. are available at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home.** Mail to **cospnekrtc@gmail.com** or **support@eprochelpdesk.com** for further information if required. Further, any addendum / corrigendum related to changes in terms and conditions of tender, specification and calendar of events etc. will be uploaded only through KPP portal.

Sd/- Controller of Stores and Purchases
(Tender Inviting Authority)
DIPR/Kalaburagi/675/KSMC&A/2024-25

KARNATAKA VETERINARY ANIMAL AND FISHERIES SCIENCES UNIVERSITY,
Nandinagar Bidar

No.EO/KVAFSU/T.No.128/Works/2024-25 Date:30.11.2024

:: TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement portal only)::

1) Works Details: Providing electrification infrastructure connected to cabling at Veterinary College Puttur, 2) Tender Estimate Amount: **Rs.2,05,60,436.00**, 3) Contractors eligibility details: As mentioned e-portal, 4) Tender Amount Details: **Rs. 2,05,60,436.00**, 5) Cost of tender form and EMD details: As mentioned e-portal, 6) Pre-Bid meeting at Estate Branch KVAFSU Bidar on: 16.12.2024 at 11.00 AM, 7) Last date for submitting application: 31.12.2024 up to 5.00 PM, 8) Opening of Technical Bid (Two Cover Works): 02.01.2025 at 11.30 AM, 9) Opening of financial bid: 03.01.2025 at 11.30. AM, 10) For more details contact office address, contract numbers: Office of the Estate Officer, KVAFSU, Nandinagar, Bidar, 08482-245446, 11) Website details: e-procurement portal- https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Estate Officer
KVAFSU, Bidar
DIPR/Bidar/267/KSMC&A/2024-25

ಮೈಸೂರು ಅರಮನೆ ಮಂಡಳಿ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಅರಮನೆ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂ:0821-2421051 ಇಮೇಲ್: ddmysorepalace@gmail.com

No: EO/MPB/DD/AEE/ELEC/T.NO-12/2024-25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 02.12.2024

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ)
(ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಮೈಸೂರು ಅರಮನೆ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು ರವರು, ಮೈಸೂರು ಅರಮನೆಯ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್-2024ನೇ ಮಾಹೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುವ ಫಲಪುಷ್ಪ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನವನ್ನು ವಿವಿಧ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ದೀಪಗಳಿಂದ ಅಲಂಕರಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಸಾಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ Line array Flying Sound System, Lighting System & Generator ಗಳನ್ನು ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 57.00 ಲಕ್ಷದ** ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ / ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯವರಿಂದ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. (1) ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ (ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್) ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ **09-12-2024 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.** (2) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : **11-12-2024 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ** (3) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : 12-12-2024 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ** ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. (4) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 42.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು** ಹಾಗೂ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ **ರೂ. 15.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು.** ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು, ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ದಿನಗಳಂದು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಮೇಲೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿರುವ ದಿನಗಳು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ರಜಾ ದಿನಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನಂತರದ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/-ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಮೈಸೂರು ಅರಮನೆ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು
DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/884/2024-25

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF MINES & GEOLOGY
Office of the Director, No.49, Khanija Bhavan, South Block, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560 001 Phone: 22384134/35

No.DMG/TS/OSOG/2024-25 **Date : 29.11.2024**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bids are invited in Two Cover System from the eligible registered companies/firm for **TENDER FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING ONE STATE ONE GPS VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEM AND SUPPLY OF HUMAN RESOURCE** to the Department of Mines & Geology.

Tender documents can be downloaded from the e-Procurement website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/.** Last date for submission of bids is **27.12.2024, 17.30** hrs. Bids shall be submitted online through e-procurement platform only.

Sd/-
Tender Inviting Authority
Department of Mines & Geology Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/3549/Zen/2024-25

‘Indo-Pacific is of growing strategic importance and is the centre of gravity for world economic growth’

French Ambassador for the Indo-Pacific Marc Abensour, who was in Bengaluru recently, spoke on a range of subjects from the city’s tech ecosystem to France’s relationship with China

INTERVIEW

Marc Abensour

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

‘We have a shared roadmap on the Indo-Pacific between France and India when Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited France in July 2023 and on that occasion, our two countries adopted this roadmap on how we could partner together,’ said Abensour. GETTY IMAGES

French Ambassador for the Indo-Pacific, Marc Abensour, who is on a visit to India to attend a conference of France’s ambassadors to the Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific nations in Delhi, made a stopover at Bengaluru where he took time off to speak to *The Hindu* on a wide range of topics from France’s friendship with India to China’s dominance in the Indo-Pacific region.

What brings you to India?

Within the Indo-Pacific strategy, we have developed a privileged partnership with India. I have come on a regular basis to engage further with our India colleagues on how we can partner together across the Indo-Pacific and this time for the first time we had a meeting of all French ambassadors posted in countries around the Indian Ocean which was attended by colleagues posted in Eastern Africa, the Middle East countries and South Asia. It was the first time we had this opportunity to confront our analysis, assessment, ideas, and initiatives and see how we could push forward our Indian Ocean agenda. It is very useful to have a perspective within the conceptual framework of our Indo-Pacific strategy.

I am saying this mainly because of two things: you have two dimensions within the Indo-Pacific strategy. The first dimension is you change perspective. You do not think in terms of geographical region, or subregion but you think of flows, maritime flows, undersea cables, internet flows, sand hipping flows for trade. You think in terms of connectivity flows... it changes perspective.

The second dimension is that within the Indo-Pacific strategy we also try to provide solutions to the challenges posed by the growing assertiveness of China. So we think it is a very useful vehicle to see how we can partner with some countries within the Indo-Pacific on a wide range of areas which can be security, defence, fight against climate change, protection of biodiversity, sustainable management of oceans, the green transition, digital transition and on fight against infectious diseases. I think in all these areas we have a shared interest which is to reduce dependencies and increase our resilience and we can only do that by building networks of partnerships.

Is this your first visit to Bengaluru and what are your views ?

This is the first time I am visiting Bengaluru. I was very much interested to come to Bengaluru because I was told it is the strategic city in India for tech ecosystem and it is a very vibrant ecosystem. I know that there are many start-ups working on space technologies for maritime surveillance, for the observation of climate change, also that there have been specific solutions which have been developed in the maritime domain.

Marc Abensour

Indo-Pacific region has the second largest Exclusive Economic Zone

So I was also very much interested to get some inputs and insights on what is going on that can be used within our cooperation between France and India. As you know we have a shared roadmap on the Indo-Pacific between France and India when Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited France in July 2023 and on that occasion, our two countries adopted this roadmap on how we could partner together. So this is why it was important to me to not only share with our Indian colleagues from the Indian administration about what are the strategic orientations but also come and see whether there are any practical solutions we can build on.

> We are following the E.U. strategy on China which is based on three pillars: partnership, economic competition and systemic rivalry

It is very important we translate our converging assessment of our strategic priorities into concrete cooperation. To me, it is a process to ensure also greater ownership by all the different stakeholders including private companies, startups, researchers scientists and so on. I know I am staying here less than two days. It is my first experience here in Bengaluru to test and explore what can be done in the future.

> Within the Indo-Pacific strategy we also try to provide solutions to the challenges posed by the growing assertiveness of China

How does France see itself in the Indo-Pacific regions where China has a dominance ?

To us it is important because we are a resident nation of the Indo-Pacific region. We have overseas territories in the Indian Ocean and some islands in the South Pole and also in the Pacific Ocean. Overall it is the second largest Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in the world after the U.S. and around two million French citizens are living in the Indo-Pacific region. Some are permanent residents and others are expatriates because it is a region where you have a lot of economic dynamism. It attracts a lot of French citizens and we also have military footprints with five military commands. Overall we have around 8000 troops and we also have military bases in U.A.E. and also in Djibouti. In addition, we also deploy on a regular basis our Navy assets and our Air Forces for joint exercises with India and other countries.

We consider that the Indo-Pacific is of growing strategic importance. It is the centre of gravity for world economic growth, we also see that it is a region with some tensions and you have well known spots of tensions that could be the south China Sea, the Taiwan Straits, the border between India and China, the Korean Peninsula.

At the same time we also see intensification of strategic competition between U.S. and China in a region you know have well defined security architecture so there is a deficit of security architecture and because of this there are some worrying factors and this is why we are present through our security forces in the region. On one hand a way to send a strategic signal to our competitors and also contribute to the stability and peace in the region and therefore France is a security provider in the Indo-Pacific.

How do you interact with China?

The objective is to deal with China and also provide solutions for the challenges posed by the growing assertiveness of China. In our case, we are following the E.U. strategy on China which is based on three pillars: partnership, economic competition and systemic rivalry.

If I have to sum up, on the one hand, we want to preserve the dialogue with China to address international crises and global issues which can include Iran, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the situation in the South China Sea and others. We are also keen on the willingness to create a level playing field in terms of economic competition with China and this is sometimes characterised as de-risking without decoupling... If I have to characterise our approach in the Indo-Pacific strategy, it is mainly to avoid any kind of confrontational approach to China. So we are opposed to any kind of initiatives that can lead to any kind of anti-China coalition. We think it is not what we should aim at.

We are also very clear that there is no equi distance between China and the U.S.. We are the U.S.’s close ally and at the same time we are very clear that we are not aligned with the U.S... We are also engaged with the U.S. in specific dialogue on the Indo-Pacific and we think that the comparative advantage between France and the US is actually positive.

Fourth edition of the Green Literature Festival to be held in city

In addition to focusing on both children’s and adult eco literature, GLF will also have sessions focusing on green businesses

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

Visuals from the previous edition of the Green Literature Festival. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The fourth edition of the Green Literature Festival (GLF), the country’s only literary festival dedicated entirely to all things environment, will be held in Bengaluru on Saturday, December 7, at the Century Club, Cubbon Park, from 9.30 a.m. onwards. The festival, first launched in June 2021 as “a response to the urgent need for literature that helps us comprehend our relationship with the planet, mend the broken bits, promote love and care for the climate through positive climate action,” as the event release puts it, “promises to be a fiesta for eco-enthusiasts, nature lovers and readers of all ages and tastes.”

Around 30 speakers

This year’s lineup comprises around 30 speakers, several stalls on sustainable products, workshops by WWF-India, Mongabay India and leading storytellers and writers, an awards evening and, for the first time, an all-day-long children’s green fest. “Until last year, it was two or three sessions (focused on children),” says Benedict Paramanand, GLF’s founder. “Now it’s like multiple sessions between 10 and 4, and we have one venue dedicated to the children. We just thought the children’s segment needed much more focus,” adds Paramanand, also the founder of the Bangalore Business Literature Festival and the sustainability online platform SustainabilityNext.

The festival, which has hosted more than 50 authors, filmmakers and photographers since its inception, seeks to be a discovery platform in the environmental space. In addition to focusing on both children’s and adult eco literature, GLF will also have sessions focusing on green businesses. Also, “this year, we are bringing in the teachers,” he says, adding that there will also be a 90-minute session run by one of the world’s leading child education activists, Matthew Pye, titled Bringing *Climate Education Into The Classroom*. Pye, who will be conversing with writer Jenny Pinto, will talk about offering a holistic climate education to children in the classroom and teaching teachers to become climate evangelists, says Paramanand. “The focus is to move from anxiety to hope. If you make children anxious about all this, it is not going to work.”

Some of the other key panel discussions taking place this year include *The Nilgiris in Focus: A Conservationist’s Nightmare* with writer and regeneration ecologist Vasanth Bosco, conservationist Dr. Tarsh Thekaekara and independent writer and editor Monisha Raman; *Environmental News: Accuracy vs Sensationalism*, which will have wildlife biologist P Gowri Shankar, Shailesh Shrivastava of Mongabay India and conservation storyteller Trishala Ashok on it; *Marginlands: An Exploration of Indian Landscapes*, which will have writers Arati Kumar-Rao and Aparna Karthikeyan in conversation with each other and *Rewilding: The Only Hope*, helmed by senior wildlife biologist Ravi Chellam, rewilding expert Alister Scott, architect Nina Chandavarkar and author and educator, Seema Mundoli.

Other festival highlights include conversations about human-animal conflict, birds and their nests, a nature quiz, and iconic Indian trees at the children’s festival, as well as workshops on environment writing, nature art and multimedia storytelling. “We are quite overwhelmed with the response to the festival and how it’s evolved,” says Paramanand, listing GLF’s partners, which include WWF, Atta Galatta, Mongabay India and ATREE, among others. He hopes to expand the festival further, drawing more funding and support and even taking it to other cities, making it “bigger and more impactful,” he says.

GLF will be held at Century Club, Cubbon Park, Bengaluru, from 9.30 a.m. onwards on December 7. To know more, log into https://greenlitfest.com/

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 3, 1974

20,000 Houses for Weaker Sections

Bangalore, Dec. 2. The Finance Minister, Mr. M.Y. Ghorpade, told newsmen here today that the construction of 20,000 houses would be taken up in the State under the people’s housing programme during the current financial year.

The Government was making available about Rs. 1 crore for this purpose during the current year. The total cost for the 20,000 houses would come to about Rs. 4 crores. The present plan was to provide 120 houses to weaker sections in each taluk.

The Minister said the bulk of the 14,000 houses already taken up had been completed and the remaining would be completed in the next two or three months.

The State Government gives an interest free loan of Rs. 1,000 and an equal; amount as subsidy to the beneficiaries who are required to contribute Rs. 500 in the form of labour.

Mangalore Council Asked to Pay for Special Water Supply

Mangalore, Dec. 2. Mr. H.M. Chennabasappa, Public Works Minister, has called upon the Mangalore Municipality, the Mangalore Harbour Project authorities and the Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd to pay up the cost of maintenance of the special water supply system under which the State PWD (Sanitary Engineering) had provided them 18 million gallons of water per day from the Netravati River. Water had been pumped from specially installed pumps from Thumbe and on this the PWD had invested Rs. 2.50 crores.

CITYBEATS

Thursday timeout

ONGOING
KOKO Bengaluru hosts Tasting Thursdays, a curated dining experience that began in September 2024. The food includes KOKO's signature dishes such as the hot and sour soup and creamy edamame soup along with a range of sushi, rolls, hamachi carpaccio and a travelling dim sum trolley.
At KOKO, Old Airport Road. Call 98441 94747.

Dream cream

ONGOING
Naturals Ice Cream has introduced a limited-edition of Black Grapes Ice Cream as its winter special. Crafted from fresh, seasonal black grapes, milk and sugar, it has a sweet, tangy flavour and a deep purple hue. Naturals Ice Cream is known for artisanal ice creams, created with natural ingredients.
At all Naturals outlets and food delivery apps

Screen time

DECEMBER 4 TO 8
Experimenta 2024 - The 12th International Festival of Moving Image Art in India, isa film festival recognised as South Asia's premier platform for experimental cinema. This event which is free for all, will bring together global filmmakers with a line up of exclusive premieres and discussions.
At Max Mueller Bhavan. Call 918296388089.

Nisha Ravikrishnan's *Anshu* marks her silver screen debut

The actor, known as Amulya from the Kannada serial *Gattimela*, talks about her power-packed intense role in her debut film, *Anshu*

Shilpa Anandraj

Actor Nisha Ravikrishnan, who hails from Kerala, not only speaks impeccable Kannada, but also stumps you when she gives this interview in the same language!

Nisha, better known as Amulya, from a long-running Kannada serial, *Gattimela*, shot to fame with this role and today she is affectionately referred to as 'Ammu' by *Gattimela* fans.

Nisha who played a restless and naive Ammu in *Gattimela,* now portrays a serious housewife in *Anshu*. "Since I hardly had any time to prepare for my role in *Anshu,* we had a short workshop, where the team worked together on the major scenes of the film, and decided on the emotions and the intensity of the character."

"For four years I played a hyperactive girl in *Gattimela* to such an extent that subconsciously I felt I too was a bright and chirpy girl. Hence, *Anshu* came as a challenge. Amidst the shooting of *Gattimela,* I would also read the *Anshu* script concurrently and work on this character, which is more mature, to see how differently I could play this role."

Choosing a career in acting came as no surprise to Nisha, who "was more inclined towards cultural activities rather than studies since I was a child. After school, if I was not learning Bharatanatyam, I would be learning Carnatic music. But, I had my heart set on acting, though I did complete my B.Com."

The actor, born and brought up in Bengaluru, says, "Once I started acting, I knew that this was what I want to pursue as my career too," says Nisha, who has been a part of *Gattimela* from 2019 to 2024.

"When the series started I was thrilled; *Gattimela* made me famous and gave

forget *Gattimela*, its director Yatish NMS Gowda or my co-stars. We worked together for four-and-a half years and bonded as a family and it will always hold a special place in my heart. It was *Gattimela* that also paved the way for my foray into *Ammayi Garu,* a Telugu film."

Nisha says she draws inspirations from Kannada actor Parvathi Menon (*Milana* fame) and the Malaya-

ling from one of her nostrils in the poster gives you the chills, then the trailer, with the actor wielding a knife in her blood-soaked hands and wearing a murderous, cold look, makes you wonder if it is a revenge story.

Nisha, without revealing anything about the movie, says she is "thrilled to make her debut with a power-packed film such as *Anshu*."

"I always dreamt

eyes. That is what I have tried to emulate in *Anshu*. I know I still have a long way to go to even be where these actors are, but this is my attempt at it," states Nisha.

Anshu draws your attention with its intense poster, which itself screams in every angle that the film will be an intense woman-oriented one. If you thought seeing a blindfolded Nisha with blood trick-

Story of resilience Nisha Ravikrishnan and the poster of Anshu that went viral. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

of portraying a character such as this as it is a story about a determined woman. The film too, has a strong message."

"When director Channakeshava approached me with *Anshu,* I jumped at it as it is a complete experimental film. I can also say that though there are quite a few characters, I play a dominant throughout the film," says the actor amidst her shoot for *Ammayi Garu*, where she plays the role of Apuroopa.

Anshu too, says Nisha, is not all just about gore and grime, but "is a story that says we can cross any hurdle despite the circumstances we are trapped in, which makes it an inspiring tale."

Having played a powerful lead in a woman-centric serial as *Gattimela* and now making her cinematic debut, also along similar lines, Nisha says, is a dream come true. "I have nothing to complain about. Yet, I am jittery about *Anshu*, nervous if the audience will accept me."

"While acting in a TV serial, your character becomes a part of the household that watches you everyday. But, in cinema, we have just a set number of hours to achieve the same goal. Hence, though I am eager about my debut with *Anshu*, I am also nervous." reveals Nisha, who started her small screen career with the series *Sarva Mangala Managalye*, where she played the supporting character to the lead.

Anshu, directed by Channakeshava MC, with music by KC Balasarangan, released on November 21 under the banner, Grahana Llp.

Rooted in rhythm

S B Vijaya Mary

Forged in fire Karan Aujla. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"'Tauba Tauba' was a career-defining moment for me, as an artiste. The connection fans felt with the song surpassed everything I could have hoped for, showing just how powerfully music can unite cultures," says 27-year-old Punjabi singer-songwriter and rapper Karan Aujla. The performer, who is currently gearing up for his much-anticipated India tour, adds, "Collaborating with Vicky (Kaushal) was an absolute privilege; his genuine love for Punjabi music and charisma brought a unique energy to the track."

Karan's *It Was All a Dream* India tour next month, presented and produced by Team Innovation, has sold two lakh tickets and filled three arenas in record time. The tour has amassed an impressive ₹75 crore in collections. And due to overwhelming demand, the planned four concerts, have been expanded to 11 shows across eight cities.

The high point
"I have always wanted to create a meaningful experience for my fans in India, but logistical challenges have held me back from touring until now. This tour celebrates Punjabi music and the bond I share with my audience. I wanted to ensure that my first tour here would be special, and I'm thrilled to make it happen finally," says Karan, who admits to having mixed feelings – of excitement and nerves.

Challenges aplenty
Karan's early years were carefree until tragedy struck; he lost his father at just nine and his mother at 14. "Suddenly, I had new responsibilities, including arranging my move to Canada to live with my older sisters," he shares. Adjusting to a new country was tough – he worked odd jobs while chasing his dream of making music. "There were plenty of rejections as I tried writing for others, but the support from fans kept me going," he says.

These hardships shaped his identity and taught him powerful lessons. "The pain and experiences from my past are a lasting part of my identity and inspire my vision for my future," Karan says. "That angst fuels my creativity; as I grow as an artiste, those emotions remain essential to my music and self-expression."

Having started writing at a young age, Karan reflects on whether he now considers himself a better writer or singer. "I feel I've grown in both areas. Writing is a key outlet for expressing my emotions and experiences – it is a big part of who I am. At the same time, my singing has developed, and I'm always working on both skills. They complement each other in my music."

Punjabi connect
Karan attributes much of his musical style and perspective to his upbringing. "Growing up in Punjab instilled in me values such as strength, humility, and the significance of community. It deepened my pride in my roots."

He attained fame and recognition after moving to Canada and made most of his music while in Canada, before moving to Dubai in 2023. Karan explains how his music balances Punjabi roots with international influences: "It's about staying true to myself while embracing new styles. My lyrics are deeply personal, drawn from my own experiences, and I incorporate global sounds into my production."

Tickets starting at ₹4,000 are available on bookmyshow.com.

Goal oriented The voices behind 'Hum Ek Hain'. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

An anthem for all

Marking World Disability Day on December 3, *From Mug To Mike* and IIM Bangalore will launch 'Hum Ek Hain,' a spirited anthem celebrating inclusion. Composed by Sunil Koshy, the rock-inspired track brings together specially-abled singers and students in a reminder that "we are all one."

"The idea stemmed from a conversation with my wife Archana," says Sunil. "We felt compelled to address inclusion – not just as a word we toss around, but as a truth we live by." Collaborating with lyricist Sahil Sultanpuri, he set the tone with verses such as *Jitna savera ye mera hai, utna savera hai tera bhi (As much as this morning is mine, it is yours too)*, signifying shared humanity.

Voices behind the anthem include Sai Kaustuv Dashgupta (motivational speaker), Shradha Muralidharan (who works in a financial company), and dentist Dr Jai Ganesh D, alongside other talented singers with disability. Each brings a story of resilience to the mic.

'Hum Ek Hain' is on shared humanity and was born of a need for inclusion

The accompanying music video was shot at the Puneet Rajkumar Studio as well as outdoors. Despite logistical hurdles, such as ensuring wheelchair-accessible locations, Sunil made sure no one was left out in the video.

The anthem premieres at IIM Bangalore, with plans for wider screenings in colleges, corporates, and public spaces. "It's about creating awareness – not just about disabilities, but about removing barriers, physical and mental," he adds.

More than a song, Sunil intends 'Hum Ek Hain' to be a movement. Its lyrics invite us to imagine a world where inclusion isn't the exception but the rule.

'12 lives lost, over 2.11 lakh hectares of farmland flooded due to cyclone'

A detailed assessment on the crop damage would be made after the rains subside, says Tamil Nadu Chief Minister

The Hindu Bureau
VILLUPURAM

A total of 12 lives were lost and over 2,400 huts were damaged in Tamil Nadu due to cyclone Fengal, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said on Monday.

In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Mr. Stalin said 2,416 huts and 721 houses were destroyed, and 963 head of cattle had died. Over 2.11 lakh hectares of agricultural and horticultural land had been inundated, he added.

Over 9,500 km of roads, 1,847 culverts and 417 tanks had been damaged, and 1,649 km of electrical conductors had been affected. Over 23,664 electric poles and 997 transformers had been affected. Over 4,200 anganwadi centres, 205 primary health centres, 5,936 school buildings, 381 community halls, and 623 water supply schemes had been affected, he said.

Reaching out: Chief Minister M.K. Stalin receiving a petition at an evacuation shelter in Villupuram district on Monday. S.S. KUMAR

"The deluge has caused extensive disruption, inundating vast areas, displacing the population, and severely impacting infrastructure and livelihood," Mr. Stalin said. The Tamil Nadu government had mobilised all available resources to provide relief and rehabilitation to the affected population, he said.

Despite the State government's best efforts, "the scale of this disaster has overwhelmed the State's resources, and the State needs urgent financial assistance to manage the fallout of this natural disaster", Mr. Stalin said.

Mr. Stalin requested Mr. Modi to release ₹2,000 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund to aid the restoration and rehabilitation efforts. He also requested that a Central team be deputed to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the damage. "Based on their findings, I seek your kind consideration for further financial assistance," he said.

The State government had estimated that ₹2,475 crore was required for temporary restoration efforts. "Despite our best efforts, the scale of this disaster has overwhelmed the State's resources. Given the magnitude of destruction and the urgent need for restoration, I humbly request immediate release of an interim relief amounting to ₹2,000 crore from the NDRF," he said.

He said the cyclone had "wreaked unprecedented havoc" across 14 districts of Tamil Nadu.

The government had taken all precautionary measures before the onset of the cyclone. Review meetings were held, and Ministers and monitoring officers were sent to the districts to coordinate relief and rescue efforts, he said.

Filmmaker gets relief from arrest till December 9

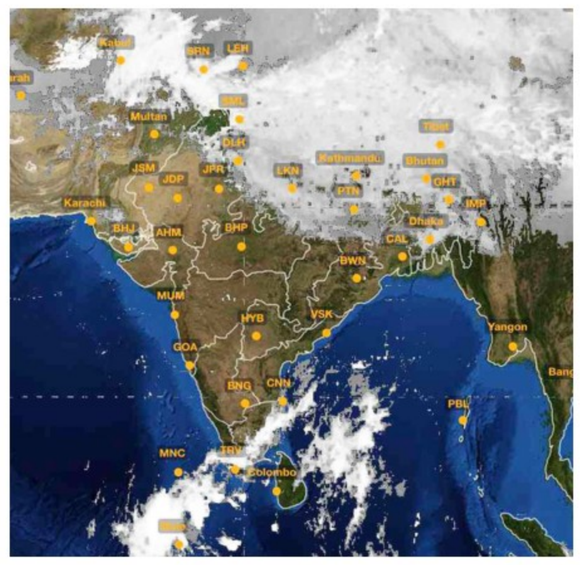
The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

Film director Ramgopal Varma got a reprieve in the Andhra Pradesh High Court in the cases pertaining to posting of objectionable messages allegedly comprising morphed photos against N. Chandrababu Naidu, K. Pawan Kalyan and Nara Lokesh on his X account, as it gave him interim protection from arrest till December 9.

A single judge passed the order on Monday after hearing the anticipatory bail petition filed by Mr. Varma, who had contended that the messages were posted in December 2023 and February 2024 as part of the promotion of his movie *Vyuham* and was not barred under law as he has the right to express his views under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over north Kerala; Light to moderate rainfall at many places with heavy rainfall at isolated places over Karnataka, north interior Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	29.6	18.0	Kozhikode	70	28.0	24.6
Ahmedabad	—	30.0	16.2	Kurnool	—	29.0	24.2
Aizawl	—	30.0	17.8	Lucknow	—	28.7	11.2
Allahabad	—	29.4	11.4	Madurai	—	34.0	23.7
Bengaluru	18.7	22.5	20.4	Mangaluru	—	30.9	26.0
Bhopal	—	26.9	8.5	Mumbai	—	34.9	20.6
Bhubaneswar	0.8	27.4	20.6	Mysuru	22.6	25.0	20.4
Chandigarh	—	28.6	9.7	New Delhi	—	27.4	10.4
Chennai	—	30.2	25.1	Patna	—	26.3	14.6
Coimbatore	—	29.6	23.0	Port Blair	—	30.7	26.3
Dehradun	—	26.7	9.8	Puducherry	—	27.0	23.0
Gangtok	—	15.5	7.8	Pune	—	31.4	20.1
Goa	—	33.0	26.0	Raipur	1	27.4	19.4
Guwahati	—	28.1	14.0	Ranchi	—	23.1	15.4
Hubballi	—	29.0	22.0	Shillong	—	23.0	9.0
Hyderabad	6	28.6	22.0	Shimla	—	17.6	8.2
Imphal	—	26.0	10.3	Srinagar	—	11.8	-0.8
Jaipur	—	27.4	14.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	31.5	27.8
Kochi	9	28.0	24.0	Tiruchi	—	27.0	22.0
Kohima	—	21.0	8.2	Vijayawada	—	29.4	23.9
Kolkata	—	26.2	20.5	Visakhapatnam	3	26.1	22.7

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.17	.33	16	267	143	
Bengaluru	—	.57	31	28	69	
Chennai	.10	.29	23	38	40	
Delhi	.20	203	77	310	295	
Hyderabad	.5	.87	72	70	84	
Kolkata	.9	.77	32	96	112	
Lucknow	.6	.38	56	316	302	
Mumbai	.13	.94	72	220	160	
Pune	—	118	25	254	164	
Visakhapatnam	.10	.38	40	46	36	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Byrnihat, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 334 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 18

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

P.V. Sindhu to tie the knot on December 22

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Shuttler P.V. Sindhu will get married on December 22 in Udaipur with the wedding-related events starting on December 20, according to her family.

The double Olympic medallist will marry Venkata Datta Sai, who is the executive director of Posidex Technologies.

33 exclusive clinics for transpersons inaugurated

Siddharth Kumar Singh
HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy virtually inaugurated 33 trangender clinics – one in each of the 33 districts on Monday. These clinics named "Maitri Clinics" aim to provide free health check-ups, diagnostic tests, and medicines for transgender individuals, ensuring accessible and inclusive healthcare across Telangana, the Chief Minister said.

The clinics will operate two days in a week, every Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 a.m to 1 p.m. "This initiative is a milestone for India as it establishes the first comprehensive Statewide healthcare support system to transgender individuals through specialised transgender clinics," said Health Minister C. Damodar Raja Narasimha.

Each clinic is staffed by a team comprising a medical doctor trained in transgender healthcare, a counsellor, and a transgender individual serving as a Community Champion.

The Chief Minister also flagged off 213 new ambulances, expanding the State's ambulance fleet from 790 to 1,003. This upgrade aims to reduce the average response time from 18 minutes to 14 minutes and improve golden-hour hospitalisation rates from 61% to 80%. With this addition, every Mandal will now have at least one ambulance, equipped with GPS-enabled tracking for real-time monitoring and efficient dispatch.

As part of the Praja Palana-Praja Vijayaotsavalu celebrations being held from December 1 to 9 marking one year of Congress government in the State, multiple initiatives under the Health Department were launched by the Chief Minister along with Mr. Narsimha at a programme titled "Health Festival" held in Hyderabad.

They have inaugurated 16 Nursing and 28 Paramedical Colleges too. Each nursing college now offers 60 B.Sc. Nursing seats, adding 960 seats this academic year and raising the total from 1,400 to 2,360. Similarly, the new paramedical colleges contribute 1,680 additional seats, bringing the total from 1,492 to 3,172.

On the occasion, appointment orders were handed over to 442 Civil Assistant Surgeons and 24 Food Safety Officers.

INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
Sheikhpura, Patna-800014 (Bihar)
Tel.: 0612-2297631, 2297099, Fax : 0612-2297225, Website : www.igims.org
E-Mail : director@igims.org

(E-Tender Notice No.: IGIMS/EC/EW/02/2024-25)
Tender Notification for Electrical Work

Percentage rate for **non-schedule items** in two bid systems (Technical and Price Bid) are invited from eligible and experienced firms registered in appropriate class under CPWD, BCD, Energy Department, Railway, autonomous bodies, PSUs or in any government organization under which similar nature of works are carried out towards the work namely **"Comprehensive annual maintenance contract of 11 KV old Substation with Transformer main LT panels cum AMF panels, 11 KV VCB, ACB, rising mains & MCCBS, HT/LT cables all other electrical installations etc. all inclusive at IGIMS, Patna."** Date for obtaining BOQ is from **04/12/2024**. Last Date for uploading of complete tender document at **www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in** is **25/12/2024**. Last Date and time for submission of complete tender document (Hard copy) - Technical (only) is **26/12/2024 up to 3:00 PM.** through speed post/Registered Post/courier services only. The received bids (Technical only) will be opened on **27/12/2024 on 3:30 PM.** Details of the tender can be seen and downloaded from Institute website: **www.igims.org** and **www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in**. Undersigned reserve the right to accept/reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. Prospective bidders are advised to regularly visit: **www.igims.org** and **www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in** for Corrigendum/Amendments etc. if any will be notified on this portal only and no separate advertisement will be made.

Sd/-
Director, IGIMS, Patna

REVENUE DEPARTMENT
Revenue Commissionerate Office, Room No-711, 7th floor, 2nd Gate, M.S.Building, Bengaluru-560001.

No: RD-2024-25/IND0206 **Date: 02-12-2024**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Revenue Commissioner, Revenue Department invites Proposal through K.P.P. Portal from eligible companies for Procurement of Desktop Computers to Revenue Commissioner Office, M.S.Building, Bengaluru - 560 001.
All Interested bidders shall submit their Technical and Commercial bids electronically through KPP Portal: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**
The Tender Schedule is as mentioned below:

1	Tender Reference No.	**RD-2024-25/IND0206**
2	Date from which Bid document is ready for download through **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** portal of Govt. of Karnataka	03-12-2024
3	The Last date for seeking clarification if any.	06-12-2024 upto 11.00 A.M
4	Pre-Bid meeting	06-12-2024 at 3.00 P.M
5	Last Date & Time for uploading of Tender in e-Procurement Platform	17-12-2024 upto 5.30 P.M
6	Date & Time of Opening of Tenders: Technical Bid & Technical Evaluation	20-12-2024 at 11.00 A.M
7	Date & Time of opening of Tenders: Commercial Bid	26-12-2024 @ 11.30 A.M
8	Contact Person for queries	Tahsildar (Admin), Revenue Commissioner, Telephone: 080-22032691 e-mail: commrrd@gmail.com
9	Place of Opening of Tenders and Address for communication	Revenue Commissionerate, Room No. 711, 7th floor, 2nd Gate, M.S.Building, Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001.

Note: Completed tender shall be uploaded through e-procurement system only in the manner described under instruction to Tenderers of RFP Documents on or before the last date & time stipulated.

Sd/-
Tahsildar (Admin),
Revenue Commissionerate, Bangalore

DIPR/CP/SPAN/3571/2024-25

Karnataka Public works Department.
Tumkur Division, Karnataka Telephone: 0816-2272479,
No;EE/KPWD/Tmk/AE.2/T.No.26/2024-25 Dt: 30.11.2024
Invitation For Tenders (IFT) KW-3 & 4
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of Government of Karnataka tenders are invited in Two cover system for Class-3 & above Contractors registered in PWD for 02 works under 5054 MDR Renewals anf 4059 Buildings Head of account in the jurisidiction of Tumkur Division through KPPP-Portal(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in). The dates are published as below.
(Maximum amount Put to Tender Rs.131.13 Lakhs, Minimum amount Put to Tender Rs. 80.45 Lakhs, Maximum EMD Amt Rs.200000/- & Minimum EMD Amt Rs.160905/-)
1. Last date for tender information enqueries : 13-12-2024: 17.30 2. Last date for submission of tender: 16-12-2024: 17.00 3. Date of opening the Technical bid: 17-12-2024 : 17.15. 4. Date of opening the Financial bid: 18-12-2024 : 11.00. Note: Turnover Certificate without UDI Number will not be considered.

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PWD DIVISION, TUMKUR.

DIPR/TUM/460/KSMCA/2024-25

BANGALORE UNIVERSITY
Office of the Registrar, Jnanabharathi, Bengaluru – 560056.
No.BU/E-Gov/Tenders-ADV-26/2024-25 Date: 02-12-2024
E-Tender Notification

Bangalore University invites bids for the following tenders through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Details of the tender are available at e-procurement portal & bid documents can be downloaded from the portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Bids are to be submitted electronically at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Bidders are requested to adhere to the time schedule prescribed in the tender.

Sl No.	Description of the Tender
1	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Digital Conference system to the Syndicate Hall of first floor, Administrative Block, Jnanabharathi campus, Bangalore University Bangalore.
2	Supply of Medicines to the Health Centre of Bangalore University (Call-2).
3	Replacement of damaged Doors, Painting at Animal Culture Room and Electrical Repair works in the First Floor Dept. of Microbiology & Biotechnology, Jnanabharathi Campus, Bangalore University Bangalore.
4	Providing Water Proofing & Other Repair Works for Day Care Centre at Jnana Bharathi Campus, Bangalore University, Bangalore
5	Annual Maintenance Contract of Campus Wide Networking (CWN) of Bangalore University

DIPR/CP/3567/Zen/2024-25 **Sd/- Registrar**

Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd.
(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.16/I, Millers Tank Bed Area, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru-560 052.
Ph.: 080-22096555 / 512, e-mail: kfcscproc123@yahoo.com
No.: KFCSC/PROC/MSP/05/2024-25 Date: 02.12.2024
NOTIFICATION

Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation LTD., Bengaluru invites applications for **"Empanelment of Fortified Rice Kernel Suppliers"** to supply Fortified Rice Kernels under Minimum Support Scheme for Kharif Marketing Season 2024-25 in the state of Karnataka. The Expression of Interest (EoI) and other details can be obtained from our official KFCSC website **https://kfcsc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Managing Director.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Bommanahalli Zone, Bengaluru
No. SADH(BOM)TENDER/06/2024-25 Date : 02-12-2024
LETTER OF INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(SHORT TERM) (Two Cover System)
(Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture Bommanahalli Zone, (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000 from eligible and experienced Person / Agencies / Firms / (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Landscape Development of Parks.

Sl.	Name of the Work
1	Landscape Development of Jayanagara Housing Society Park, Gubbalala Main Road, Ward No. 184 Uttarahalli Part-7 in Bommanahalli Zone Call-3. **Estimated Cost :** Rs.20,00,000/- **EMD Amount :** Rs.40,000/- **Category :** Other.
2	Landscape Development of Jayanagara Housing Society Park, Gubbalala Main Road, Ward No. 184 Uttarahalli Part-5 in Bommanahalli Zone Call-3. **Estimated Cost :** Rs.15,00,000/- **EMD Amount :** Rs.30,000/- **Category :** Other.
3	Landscape Development of Jayanagara Housing Society Park, Gubbalala Main Road, Ward No. 184 Uttarahalli Part-6 in Bommanahalli Zone Call-3. **Estimated Cost :** Rs.20,00,000/- **EMD Amount :** Rs.40,000/- **Category :** Other.

Calendar of Events : (1) The Tender Documents may be downloaded from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home** under login for Contractors. **(2)** Date of Notification : **02.12.2024 (3)** Tender can be downloaded from : **04.12.2024 (4)** Pre bid Meeting : **06.12.2024 at 11.30 AM (5)** Tender Closing Date : **11.12.2024 at 4.30 PM (6)** Technical bid opening date : **12.12.2024 at 11.30 AM (7)** Financial bid opening date : After Approval of Technical bid.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Bommanahalli Zone

KMF Karnataka Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
Kmf Complex, Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bangalore - 560 029
Tel: 080-25536625 / 25536789 fax: 080-25536105
IFT No:KMF/ENGG/Mother Diary-Sterilize & filling M/c/1960/2024-25 Date: 02-12-2024
SHORT TERM RETENDER NOTIFICATION (2nd Call)
[Two Cover System] [Through KPP Portal Only]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bangalore invites tender from the eligible manufacturers/ authorised dealer through KPP Portal for the works mentioned in the table below. The interested manufacturers /Suppliers who have handled similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail; hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com and helpline no. 080-25501227/ 25501216.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty.	EMD in Rs.	Period of Completion
1	Design, Supply, Installation and commissioning of 60-80 Bottles per min capacity Bottle Filling Machine with accessories at Product section Mother Dairy, Yelahanka.	1 Job	94,400/-	6 Months
2	Design, Supply, Manufacturing, Installation and commissioning of Sterilizer with accessories at Product section Mother Dairy, Yelahanka.	1 Job	50,000/-	3 Months

1. Tender schedules may be downloaded from dated: 03-12-2024 to 10-12-2024 up to 4.00 pm.
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: 10-12-2024 up to 4.00 pm
3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 11-12-2024 at 4:30 pm.

For Karnataka Co-Opp. Milk Federation Ltd.,
Sd/- Director [Engineering-2]

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.: SEE/Tr(W&M)/AEE(Civil)/24-25/Cys-64 Date: 28.11.2024
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPPP Mode Only)

KPTCL invites bid against No.: SEE/AEE(C)/Trans/W&M/DVG/24-25/CYS-64 Dated: 28.11.2024 for the works coming in the Transmission(W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Davanagere.

The detailed notification regarding the works can be obtained by logging on to website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** & click on to hyperlink **E Procurement KPTCL** to participate in e-procurement portal **on or after 03.12.2024 at 11.00 Hrs onwards.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Tr. (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Near Stadium,
Hadadi Road, Davangere. Ph: 08192-2250774.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYATH, KOPPAL
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL DRINKING WATER & SANITATION DIVISION, KOPPAL
NO.RWS/Dn/KPL/SMB/2024-25/1210 Date:29.11.2024
KPPP NOTIFICATION Double Cover System

On Behalf of Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water Supply & sanitation Division, Koppal Invites e-Tender for SBMG Work The eligible bidders are requested to submit the Bid in Double Cover System through kppp portol mode through portol http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in **General Information:** 1) Contractor should submit the Tender Bid Documents through Online Only. 2) All Documents Should be Scanned and Upload during the period of Applying Tender through Online Only. 3) EMD Amount Should be Submitted Through Online Only. 4) Two Cover Tender Called.

If any More Information Contractor should Contact this office or wide email id:**eerwsskpl@gmail.com** in Office Hours and Tenders will be **Download** from **30/11/2024**
Tender Processing Fee: **As Per KPPP Portol.** Tender Downloading Date**: 30/11/2024 Time: 10:00 AM to 16/12/2024 16:00 Hours.** Tender receiving Date and Time **: 30/11/2024 Time: 10:00 AM to 16/12/2024 16:00 Hours.** Technical Bid Opening Date and Time **: 17/12/2024 Date:17:00 Hours** Financial Bid Opening after approval of the technical bid from the Competent Authority **19/12/2024 or After Obtaining the Technical Bid Approval from the Competent Authority**

The Contractors should produce the Original Documents within 8 days from the open of the tender. If failed such Contractor candidature will not be considered.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, R.D.W & S .Division, Koppal
DIPR/Koppal/575/KSMCA/2024-25

A wake-up call

Policymakers must not make light of underwhelming growth numbers

Even the most pessimistic economic forecasters did not anticipate the sharp downturn in economic momentum reflected in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimates for the July-September quarter. From a five-quarter low of 6.7% in the first quarter (Q1), most independent economists expected GDP growth of 6.5% in Q2, citing slackening urban demand indicators such as moderating GST revenue growth, and weak consumer durables' and non-durables' sales. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in its October review, pegged Q2 growth at 7%, while RBI officials projected a 6.8% uptick in an article soon after. That the actual number came in at just 5.4% – the slowest since the third quarter of 2022-23 – with the Gross Value-Added (GVA) in the economy rising at a marginally better 5.6%, is, therefore, a significant shock. From a robust 8.2% GDP uptick last year, expectations of another year of 7%-plus growth in 2024-25 now appear precariously poised if not overtly optimistic, with the first half clocking just 6% growth.

The RBI's MPC, which meets again this week, would certainly have to reorient its 7.2% growth forecast for the year, and may find it tougher to keep its focus on reining in inflation amid recent calls from Ministers to cut interest rates to support flailing growth impulses and investments. With inflation at a 15-month high of 6.2% in October, the RBI, which is committed to wait for a durable decline in price rise before switching gears on rates, is unlikely to accede to these calls just yet. It may, at best, unveil measures to ease tight liquidity conditions. Mint Street czars have a tough tightrope walk ahead in the face of the growth slump. North Block officials have, however, sought to downplay the recent streak of weaker economic indicators, and termed the Q2 growth print a 'one-off' number due to an urban demand slack that should dissipate in the months ahead. While rural demand is expected to perk up the economy in the second half of the year, along with a relative ramp-up in public capex that has suffered so far this year – thanks to a Q1 pause due to the general election and tepid Q2 spends amid an extended monsoon – it may be too complacent to assume that urban consumption will rebound on its own and interest rates are the only constraint for growth. Poor wage increases and persistent price rise have caught up on urban wallets, and cannot be wished away. The Centre must shed its 'all is well' approach, and ring in fiscal measures, including cuts on fuel taxes and high GST rates on some items, to ease living costs and revive demand.

New crimes, old tools

Fraudsters thrive when they do not fear prosecution; they must be put on notice

At the Conference of Director Generals of Police last weekend, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the growing menace of cybercrime in India, particularly digital frauds and non-consensual intimate deepfakes. Unlike traditional crimes like petty theft, organised digital frauds are not merely the work of financially desperate individuals; they represent a new class of criminals equipped with a variety of tools. Vulnerable telecom infrastructure – ill-prepared for the overwhelming volume of calls and messages from malicious fraudsters – creates fertile ground for cybercrime. These criminals also employ ingenious techniques that constantly stay a step ahead of underprepared law enforcement and security systems. More troubling is the strong network of relationships these fraudsters cultivate with local police in key hotspots, which enables them to carry out their activities with a sense of impunity. The consequences of this rampant cybercrime are grave. Thousands of ordinary citizens face the constant threat of losing their life savings after a single ill-advised phone call or message. It is therefore encouraging that the highest levels of government are addressing this critical issue and pushing for action from those most equipped to combat it.

But talk alone will not solve the problem. It is crucial to pursue aggressive prosecutions with integrity, transparency, and wide publicity. The growing number of these criminals is both a threat and an opportunity: while their continued operations reflect poorly on the law enforcement and public safety apparatus, it also provides a window for significant breakthroughs in investigations and successful convictions. Holding these fraudsters accountable sends an important message – this is not a simple "call centre job" with questionable ethics, but a serious crime that is not worth the risk. Public awareness is another powerful tool in combating cybercrime. Cyber fraudsters constantly evolve their methods and adopt new personas to deceive unsuspecting victims. Alerting the public –repeatedly, creatively, and patiently – that they are at risk of losing money to fraudsters is an essential policy intervention. A little healthy scepticism could prevent many people from falling prey to scams. As the government pushes for universal banking and greater access to digital services, it is critical that these advances do not become vulnerabilities for ordinary people. The issue of non-consensual intimate imagery is also pressing. With advances in artificial intelligence, criminals can now use deepfake technology to place ordinary individuals' faces into pornographic content, causing great harm. But it is a matter of some comfort that though these crimes are new, the tools to combat them remain familiar: a mix of awareness and preventive measures.

A focus on 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities' (December 3), on the Editorial and Opinion pages

Citizens with disabilities, making their rights real

The data from the 2011 national Census of India indicate that persons with disabilities constitute 2.21 % of the total population. This is a grossly underestimated figure. According to the 2019 Brief Disability Model Survey conducted by the World Health Organization across India, Tajikistan and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the prevalence of severe disability among Indian adults is 16%. India ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on October 1, 2007 and one of the immediate measures expected out of the state parties to the convention is to ensure alignment of the national disability legislations in line with the principles of the convention. Accordingly, Parliament passed the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 (RPWD Act) that came into force on April 19, 2017 to replace the earlier Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, which fell short of promoting a social and a human rights model of disability rights.

Pradeep Kumar Bagival

was Disability Inclusion Adviser to the national governments, the United Nations and International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) and former Assistant Commissioner for Disabilities, Persons with Disabilities Act-1995, Karnataka

The role of the State Commissioner

One of the unique points of the RPWD Act in comparison to many disability legislations of the developing countries is the provision for the constitution of the office of the State Commissioners for Disabilities at the State level with a combination of review, monitoring, and quasi-judicial functions to ensure effective implementation of the disability law. According to Section 82 of the RPWD Act, the State Commissioners, for the purpose of discharging their functions under the Act, shall have the same powers of a civil court under the Civil Procedure Code 1908 while trying a suit, and every proceeding before the State Commissioner shall be a judicial proceeding within the meaning of Sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860).

Despite the legislation providing far-reaching quasi-judicial powers to the State Commissioners in safeguarding the rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, the State Commissioners in many States have fallen short of the expectations of citizens with disabilities. This dismal functioning of the office of the State Commissioners is largely due to the lax attitude on the part of the State governments to invigorate the statutory office in discharging its functions in accordance with the law. This reality has been aptly highlighted in the writ petition WPC 29329/2021, *Seema Girija Lal vs. Union of India,* in which the delay in appointment of the state Commissioners has also been highlighted.

Among various reasons for the failure to fulfil the statutory role by the State Commissioners is the manner in which the commissioners are appointed. The RPWD Rules provide an opportunity for persons with substantial experience in law, human rights, education, social work and rehabilitation and with a non-governmental organisation background to be appointed to the position of State Commissioner. In reality, a majority of the commissioners, either independent or holding additional charge, are civil servants from the nodal ministry. According to the latest report (2021-22) of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, only eight States have appointed commissioners who are not part of the mainstream civil service. Having civil servants from the nodal ministry is in conflict with the purpose of having an impartial and independent office that can exercise oversight over the executive and hold them accountable for not implementing the provisions of the disability law.

For an inclusive future

Some of the progressive States in terms of disability inclusion have appointed representatives of civil society organisations as State Commissioners and the State governments should consider appointing qualified women with disabilities as commissioners as they will be in a better position to address intersectional forms of discrimination that women and girls with disabilities in India currently experience.

The State Commissioners have a substantive role including powers to intervene *suo motu* to identify and inquire about any specific policy, provision, programme and laws that contravene the provisions of the RPWD Act and recommend appropriate corrective measures.

There are many contraventions of the RPWD Act that are highlighted by aggrieved persons with disabilities and by certain proactive organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) and the State Commissioners have not been able to intervene *suo motu* to address discriminatory policies and practices which has led to an erosion of faith in the statutory offices created under the disability law to uphold the rights of citizens with disabilities. The State Commissioners should interact consistently with persons with disabilities and their representative organisations to understand which are those policies, guidelines, executive orders that contravene the provisions of the law and initiate necessary remedial action.

State Commissioners have a vital role in safeguarding the rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, but in many States, their statutory role has fallen short of expectations

The example of Karnataka

It is vital for State governments and the office of the Chief Commissioner for Disabilities to build the capacity of the State Commissioners in performing their quasi-judicial role and in functioning as a civil court. As done by the State Commissioner's office in Karnataka, collaborating with law schools and legal experts in strengthening their respective capacities could be a viable option. While some States such as Karnataka and Delhi have been able to infuse confidence among persons with disabilities to register complaints with regard to a deprivation of their rights, it is equally important for State Commissioners to look into complaints and dispose of them expeditiously. The websites of the office of the State Commissioners should – on the dashboard – indicate the number of cases received, disposed of and those pending for action along with other vital information such as annual reports and special reports submitted to the government on implementation of the law by the government with concrete recommendations.

Mobile adalats (mobile courts), as practised years ago by the Karnataka Commissioner's office, could be a good practice for other States to emulate in reaching out to persons with disabilities in remote areas and to look into a deprivation of their rights. Adalats were organised in the State with prior notice to persons with disabilities through the nodal disability office in the districts for aggrieved individuals or institutions to get their grievance redress.

Often, these grievances would be resolved on the spot for persons with disabilities and their families. Designating District Magistrates as Deputy Commissioners for persons with disabilities – as done in the case of Karnataka – is a promising way to make local governance disability inclusive.

The RPWD Act enables State Commissioners to monitor the implementation of various pieces of legislation, programmes and schemes that impact persons with disabilities. To maximise the effectiveness of this critical role, the District Disability Management Review (DDMR) undertaken by the Karnataka State Commissioner's office could be one of the preferred practices for State Commissioners. The DDMR has become an inclusive governance tool for the State Commissioner in Karnataka to have sight of how development and welfare programmes and policies have been implemented by the relevant departments at the district level, and to what extent the quotas earmarked for persons with disabilities have been fulfilled.

Research as a function

One of the key functions of the State Commissioners is to undertake and promote research in the field of disability rights. This opens up opportunities for the State Commissioners to collaborate with United Nations entities which have a mandate to promote disability inclusion on the basis of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy in undertaking research in areas such as disability inclusive social protection, disability inclusive care economy and the impact of climate change on persons with disabilities. The findings could pave the way for more inclusive policies and in advancing the rights of persons with disabilities in India.

Frontline nutrition workers foster disability inclusion

December 3 is International Day of Persons with Disabilities. It is a day dedicated to advocating the rights of people with disabilities by creating awareness and highlighting the inclusion and the needs of persons with disabilities who are among one of the most marginalised and under-represented communities in the world.

In recent years, there has been growing recognition, globally and nationally, of the significant connection between nutrition and disability. Various studies are increasingly underscoring this relationship. There are reports that illuminate the profound impact of nutritional status on overall health and well-being.

Elisabeth Faure

Country Director for the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

Amneet P. Kumar

an IAS officer, is Commissioner and Secretary, Government of Haryana

Nutrition, health and disability

Research indicates that countries with high levels of malnutrition tend to exhibit not only poorer health outcomes but also higher rates of disability among their populations. This correlation has far-reaching implications, suggesting that inadequate nutritional intake can lead to a range of health issues that contribute to disability. For instance, malnutrition may weaken the immune system, hinder physical development, and exacerbate chronic health conditions – all of which can significantly impair an individual's ability to function effectively in daily life.

As governments and health organisations strive to improve public health, addressing malnutrition becomes increasingly critical. This is not only for enhancing individual quality of life but also for reducing disability rates on a broader scale. The link between nutrition and disability underscores the need for integrated health policies to improve dietary practices and ensure access to nutritious food for vulnerable populations.

Maternal malnutrition can lead to prenatal disability, malnutrition can contribute to developmental delays and disabilities at different points in the life cycle – for example, vitamin A deficiency can cause blindness), and some disabilities, such as cerebral palsy and Down syndrome, can put persons at risk of nutritional deficiency. There is a real need to make nutrition services, benefits, and information more accessible to persons with disabilities.

Anganwadi workers have a vital role in the early identification of children with disabilities and also serving as a referral for children and adults with disabilities

In 2023, the Ministry of Women and Child Development introduced the 'Anganwadi Protocol for Divyang Children', a national guideline for frontline community nutrition workers in India regarding disability inclusion. Anganwadi workers are crucial as community nutrition providers, executing and manifesting India's most ambitious development programmes. They engage deeply with the communities, offering vital nutrition services and driving social and behavioural changes related to gender equality, social inclusion, nutrition, and early childhood development. The Protocol for Divyang Children equips them with comprehensive instructions for the early identification of disabilities, monitoring developmental milestones using the POSHAN Tracker, and ensuring referrals in partnership with Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers.

For an inclusive future

The experience in Haryana

The Haryana government's Department of Women and Child Development is committed to promoting disability inclusion using Mission Vatsalya and the Integrated Child Development Scheme. It has introduced the Divyang Protocol and a unique podcast initiative, 'Nanhe Farishtey', to educate communities about disabilities and enhance awareness at Anganwadi centres for the early detection and inclusion of children with disabilities

The World Food Programme (WFP) has also partnered with the Department of Women and Child Development for a three-year intervention to transform norms around gender equality and social inclusion, including disability inclusion, by developing the capacity of Haryana's network of 25,000 'Anganwadi' workers.

As part of the collaborative programme, in a recent Needs Assessment Study for its intervention in Haryana, the WFP asked 'Anganwadi workers' across four districts about persons and children with disabilities in the local communities they serve. The study found that Anganwadi workers played an essential role in the early identification of children and referral for children and adults with disabilities. Nearly all the respondents had helped connect persons with disabilities to some form of medical and educational support, register for disability certificates, and help them avail themselves of government-provided benefits, including the National Disability Pension.

Early intervention, accessible medical therapy, and supportive services are crucial for aiding children with disabilities. Anganwadi workers play a vital role in this effort. Alongside building the capacity of Anganwadi workers on the Divyang Protocol, development actors must unite to create supportive services and infrastructure for these children. This includes establishing a group of trained specialist therapists for various disabilities, creating accessible schools and transportation, providing affordable assistive devices, and implementing information-communication systems to promote tailored nutritional well-being practices for individuals with disabilities. Community members and frontline workers can contribute by dispelling the disability stigma.

We all share the responsibility of ensuring that the nutrition and food security of persons with disabilities, particularly children, are at the centre of their rights, equal opportunity and well-being.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lower courts and suits

One fails to understand why lower courts are admitting revanchist suits when the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 is clear on the status of places of worship as it existed in 1947. The top court should have also pulled up the trial court for the perfunctory manner in which orders were passed.

It is a matter of great concern that lower courts are kowtowing to a powerful and regressive political establishment.

Manohar Alembath,
Kannur, Kerala

Merkel book

Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel has joined the list of world leaders to voice concerns over attacks on minorities in India ("In book, Merkel says she had raised concern over attacks on minorities in India with Modi", December 2). We may expect the government to deny the charges — as it normally does — whenever there are reports of religious intolerance under its watch. The government may feel good. But the reality is very different, as is well known.

V. Padmanabhan,
Bengaluru

December 1984, a rewind

Negligence in Bhopal has still left thousands suffering. India, a proud democracy, failed to hold a corporation accountable, demonstrating how global corporate giants can act with impunity while governments turn a blind eye or even offer support.

The report, "40 years after Bhopal gas tragedy, Union Carbide's toxic waste yet to be removed" (Inside pages, December 2), is a stark and ugly reminder of the unfulfilled promises of justice.

Faisal Bava,
Malappuram, Kerala

Enabling a level playing field

Sanskriti Bhatia

Former Consultant at Young Leaders for Active Citizenship, an Indian Sign Language Interpreter, and an MPP candidate at the University of Cambridge

Shivangi Tyagi

Officer, Programs and Policy Communications at Young Leaders for Active Citizenship

As Harmanpreet Kaur went out to bat during the 2024 ICC Women's T20 World Cup at Sharjah, millions were glued to their screens, including Sanskriti's 86-year-old grandfather, a former player who once captained India's deaf cricket team. While he always marvels at the action on the field, something else caught his attention this time: a sign language interpreter at the corner of the screen, translating every nuance of the game. For the first time, he could follow the commentary and post-match speeches without relying on us. Earlier this year, on Global Accessibility Awareness Day, Star Sports and Disney+Hotstar incorporated features that made live cricket accessible to India's 63 million hearing impaired and five million visually impaired citizens. Finally, the sport Sanskriti's grandfather loved was truly within reach.

As we approach the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2026, we must strive for better implementation of the Convention at the national level, particularly through the recognition of the linguistic human rights of hearing impaired people. This is crucial because, for most Indians, cricket is more than just a sport; it cultivates a sense of national belonging. Yet, this camaraderie unintentionally leaves many behind, especially the 90 million persons with disabilities.

A sense of isolation

Despite progressive endeavours, such as the Accessible India Campaign and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, glaring gaps remain in the lived experiences of people with disabilities. They feel isolated not because of their condition, but because of social barriers. The world is unfortunately designed for able-bodied people and the exclusion of persons with disabilities persists in the way buildings, sidewalks, stadiums, movie theatres, seating areas, and even washrooms are built. Legal mandates such as ramps and tactile paving are either absent or are merely tokenistic gestures.

The same inaccessibility can be seen in cricketing infrastructure too, whether in stadiums or on live broadcasts. While ongoing state efforts towards inclusivity in the education and health sectors are relevant, the private entertainment sector also requires attention. Persons with disabilities are not just citizens with capacity-building requirements; they are also individuals with the need to explore recreational avenues. That this has not been recognised by entertainment providers begs the question of whether our collective idea of leisure is inherently ableist. In theatres, where cricket matches are increasingly being screened, we rarely pause to wonder about access for wheelchair users or assistive devices for visually impaired people. This highlights the need to integrate accessibility into popular culture so that every person can reclaim their right to leisure.

For an inclusive future

However, enabling people to exercise their right to leisure does not end with making infrastructure accessible; it also demands showcasing inclusive stories in popular entertainment. Films such as *Margarita with a Straw* (2014) and *Srikanth* (2024) lent great depth and sensitivity to the representation of disability in cinema. Such films challenge the public's unidimensional perspective on disability, while also making persons with disabilities feel seen and heard. They help shed light on the state of accessibility, prompting slow but steady public shifts towards making future entertainment infrastructure more inclusive.

While ongoing state efforts towards inclusivity in the education and health sectors are relevant, the private entertainment sector also requires attention

Steps in the right direction

The government is also increasingly aware of the intersection between entertainment and inclusivity. A recent ruling by a Supreme Court bench, headed by former Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, stated that stereotyping differently abled persons in visual media and films perpetuates discrimination. The Court said that creators ought to provide an accurate representation of disabilities rather than mocking them. This is a step in the right direction.

Private players are also widening the scope for accessibility in subtle ways. We now have subtitles and audio descriptions on OTT platforms. These measures are convenient for everyone, including able-bodied persons, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. As technology continues to permeate our society, especially with the rise of Artificial Intelligence, we may soon see many more such measures.

Building disability friendly ecosystems is no longer about philanthropic leanings. Globally, the total spending power of 1 billion persons with disabilities, including their family and friends who are likely to make accessibility-based choices, is estimated at $13 trillion, an untapped opportunity. Investing in one's business to serve potential consumers and to build million-dollar revenues in the process is a strategic decision. These endeavours signal the recognition of individuals with disabilities as valued consumers and as crucial contributors to our economy.

Accessibility initiatives undertaken by different platforms in recent times offer a glimpse of what the future can be – a world where persons with disabilities are active participants in the entertainment industry. These efforts redefine the identities of persons with disabilities and give them both respect and a sense of belonging. This shift reminds us that a true community leaves no one behind.

Breaking barriers with the help of tech

ICMR has been unlocking opportunities through assistive technology innovations

Rajiv Bahl

On this International Day of Persons with Disabilities, we celebrate the strength, determination, and boundless potential of individuals who constantly push the boundaries of what is possible. It is a moment to reflect on our collective responsibility to build a world where everyone can thrive, regardless of their ability.

This year, India's Paralympians made history at the 2024 Summer Paralympic Games by bringing home 29 medals. Sheetal Devi with her impeccable precision in archery, Sumit Antil with his extraordinary javelin throws, Sharad Kumar with his triumphs in high jump, and many others exemplified excellence and resilience.

While the medals are a result of their determination and talent, we must also acknowledge the role that assistive technology (AT) plays in enabling such success. From advanced prosthetics to precision tools, AT provides the support that athletes need to push past boundaries. The journeys of these sportspersons symbolise the powerful synergy between human resilience and technological advancement.

AT is not just a game-changer in sports, it also empowers individuals to shine in education, employment, and other walks of life. However, the World Health Organization reports that globally, 90% of persons with disabilities lack access to AT. While India has done tremendous work to close the gap, there is an increasing need for such technology given the rising incidence of non-communicable diseases and injuries. Universal access to such technology must become a cornerstone of healthcare systems if we want true inclusivity.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has been unlocking new opportunities for millions through AT innovations. Recently recognised by the United Nations for its pioneering work, the ICMR has developed life-changing devices such as SmartCane, a mobility aid for the visually impaired, and TacRead, an affordable digital text reader. Created in collaboration with IIT Delhi, these empower individuals to live with greater independence and dignity.

For an inclusive future

To bridge the gap between innovation and accessibility, ICMR has launched the National List of Essential Assistive Products, standardising and improving access to AT across India. Complemented by awareness efforts such as the public launch of assistive devices at IIT Delhi's National Centre for Assistive Health Technologies, these initiatives foster empowerment and dignity for persons with disabilities.

The journey from idea to implementation is often challenging, with many promising innovations struggling to secure funding. I once met a dedicated group of educators who had developed an interactive learning app for students with learning disabilities. Despite their passion and vision, they faced significant challenges in securing the funding to bring their idea to life. Fortunately, programmes such as the BIRAC-Social Alpha Quest for Assistive Technologies and the Attvaran India accelerator play a vital role by supporting startups focused on AT solutions. These initiatives not only provide funding but also offer mentorship to help refine and bring innovative ideas to the market. They ensure that financial constraints do not stand in the way of progress.

The possibilities for AT are immense. New frontiers such as Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies offer opportunities to create smarter, more adaptive solutions that cater to diverse needs. Moving beyond a one-size-fits-all approach, India is investing in customised, user-centric designs that empower individuals and communities alike. As we stride towards our vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, inclusivity and empowerment must guide our development agenda. Integrating rehabilitation into our health systems will not only enhance support for individuals with disabilities but also transform how they are perceived and valued.

The medals won by India's Paralympians show how athletic excellence can be assisted by the transformative power of science. The remind us of the science behind the medals and of the possibilities it offers. They inspire us to build a future where every person has the tools to achieve their dreams.

Rajiv Bahl is Secretary, Department of Health Research, Government of India, and Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research

Joy, fear and anger — the BJP and INC's digital playbook

Decoding the emotional strategies shaping voter engagement in the digital age of Indian elections

DATA POINT

Abhishek Sharma
Vandita Gupta

Social media platforms have been transformed into political battlegrounds, where the battle for the national and Assembly elections is not only being fought in rallies and speeches but also through the emotions and grammar of social media posts. Though the role of all social media platforms such as X and Instagram in shaping voters' decisions is still being debated, several studies have suggested a positive link between the use of Meta (formerly Facebook) for political campaigning and electoral victory. To examine the currency of political communication on social media, i.e., emotions, we examined the captions of the social media posts of the BJP and the Congress (INC) in the Haryana and Maharashtra Assembly elections in 2024. This study analyses the emotions and keywords in the captions of posts in the State-specific pages of both parties on Meta. The captions of social media posts are a clear highlight of their key messaging. The captions of 292 posts by the INC and 705 posts by the BJP from their Haryana pages, and the captions of 647 posts of the INC and 508 posts of the BJP from their Maharashtra pages, posted over a 20-day period (which ended on the day of polls in each State), have been examined. The analysis involved manually scraping Facebook posts followed by emotion classification using Hugging Face's Transformers library with the pre-trained model. To ensure accuracy, the results were manually cross-checked before further analysis.

Both parties strategically evoked and utilised various emotions through their posts on Meta. The captions of 2,152 posts across both parties and States were analysed for seven distinct types of emotions (**Table 1**). Posts that did not convey any emotion were classified as neutral. Neutral posts, primarily routine updates, were most prominent for the BJP in Haryana, at 43%. Joyful posts and anger featured moderately, while fear was at 9%. In Maharashtra, neutral posts dropped significantly, while joyful posts increased by 9%, signalling a focus on achievements. Anger rose slightly by 4%, and fear doubled to 18%, indicating a more emotionally charged and confrontational strategy (**Table 1**).

For the INC, neutral posts and joyful posts dominated in Haryana, with anger at 15% and fear relatively low. In Maharashtra, joyful posts saw a sharp 12% decline, while anger rose to 21% and fear increased by 6%. This shift highlights a stronger emphasis on criticising the BJP and alarming voters (**Table 1**).

Overall, the BJP adopted a more emotionally charged strategy in Maharashtra, while the INC balanced its tone in Haryana but became more combative in Maharashtra, highlighting strategy in each regional political landscape. For instance, the BJP used terms such as 'jihad', 'Naxals' and 'Hindutva' in Maharashtra while these were noticeably absent in their Haryana campaign. This highlights the communal and polarising rhetoric that the BJP employed in Maharashtra, while in Haryana, the party's focus was on 'farmers' and 'women'. To examine how the parties used three emotions – fear, anger, and joy – we analysed the caption keywords (**Table 2**). For fear, the BJP in Maharashtra emphasised women's issues and often evoked concerns about 'vote jihad', while in Haryana, it emphasised Dalit issues, youth and development. The INC relied on references to the Constitution, in Maharashtra, while in Haryana, it focused on the youth and unemployment. Under anger, the BJP highlighted farmers and Dalit issues in Haryana, while in Maharashtra, it leaned on women and development. The INC invoked anger through women and farmers issues in Maharashtra whereas the focus remained on Dalit and farmers in Haryana. Joy was primarily conveyed by the BJP through a focus on farmers in Maharashtra, while in Haryana, development and women were dominant. The INC laid emphasis on the youth in Haryana, and youth and farmers in Maharashtra to underscore joy.

It is also essential to examine how these emotions were perceived by those on the other side, as this might ultimately influence and shape the narrative. To gauge the potential impact, average engagement was calculated by adding up total likes and shares on posts that conveyed a particular emotion. The data highlight sharp differences in emotional engagement across parties and States. In Haryana, the INC's posts expressing sadness had the highest engagement, while the BJP's posts on surprise performed exceptionally well. In Maharashtra, the BJP led across all emotions, with joy, fear, and anger receiving significantly higher engagement compared to the INC. Notably, the INC's emotional posts in Haryana generally outperformed those in Maharashtra, while the BJP's emotional strategy in Maharashtra proved more effective, especially in driving impressions for joy, fear, and anger (**Table 3**).

The likes and shares today are often precursors to votes tomorrow. By analysing these digital footprints in over 2,000 social media posts, we uncovered the tactical use of emotions to drive engagement and influence voter sentiment. This shows how social media has transformed not only how elections are being fought but also how voters are being emotionally engaged and mobilised.

Abhishek Sharma is a researcher at the Lokniti-CSDS and a candidate at the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi. He focuses on political communication and digital democracy. Vandita Gupta is a researcher at the Lokniti-CSDS

Digital emotions

The tables are based on a study that analyses the emotions and keywords in the captions of posts in Meta by two major parties across two State Assembly elections

Table 1: Emotions in posts of the BJP and INC on Meta. Figures show % of posts

Party	State	Neutral	Anger	Joy	Fear	Disgust	Sadness	Surprise
BJP	Haryana	43	12	26	9	7	2	1
	Maha.	27	16	35	18	1	2	1
INC	Haryana	36	15	30	8	6	4	1
	Maha.	42	21	18	14	3	1	1

Maha. = Maharashtra

Table 2: Percentage of keywords associated with different emotions in posts

Party	Fear		Anger		Joy	
	Maha.	Haryana	Maha.	Haryana	Maha.	Haryana
BJP	Women (26%)	Youth (22%)	Women (29%)	Farmers (38%)	Farmers (37%)	Development (42%)
	Progress (20%)	Development (22%)	Development (21%)	Women (12%)	Development (22%)	Women (23%)
	Jihad (17%)	Dalit (29%)	Constitution (17%)	Dalit (23%)	Women (27%)	Farmers (15%)
	Constitution (11%)	Farmers (11%)	Progress (6%)	Youth (10%)	Progress (11%)	Youth (12%)
	Farmers (6%)	Women (9%)	Dalit (6%)	Development (9%)	Hindutva (2%)	Dalit (4%)
INC	Constitution (57%)	Youth (50%)	Women (34%)	Dalit (22%)	Youth (24%)	Youth (23%)
	Women (16%)	Unemployment (20%)	Farmers (27%)	Farmers (19%)	Farmers (20%)	Women (18%)
	Farmers (11%)	Dalit (10%)	Inflation (15%)	Youth (16%)	Constitution (16%)	Progress (15%)
	Hindutva (6%)	Inflation (10%)	Constitution (12%)	Progress (12%)	Women (15%)	Farmers (12%)
	Inflation (5%)	Constitution (10%)	Youth (4%)	Inflation (9%)	Progress (9%)	Development (9%)

Table 3: Average engagement across emotions in posts

Party	State	Sadness	Joy	Neutral	Fear	Anger	Disgust	Surprise
BJP	Haryana	434	296	260	301	327	444	595
	Maha.	1218	3781	3611	3259	3232	3074	1218
INC	Haryana	1561	93	111	882	441	82	54
	Maha.	366	294	117	165	178	226	588

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 3, 1974

Lok Sabha told of accord on Cauvery waters

New Delhi, Dec. 2: The Union Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, Mr. K.N. Singh, informed the Lok Sabha to-day that a consensus was reached at the recent conference of Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala on the setting up of the Cauvery Valley Authority to regulate supplies from the Cauvery and also monitor schemes for effecting savings and allocation of waters so saved amongst the various States on an agreed basis. A broad consensus also emerged regarding the quantum of water which can be saved and the manner in which it may be apportioned, he added.

The Deputy Minister did not give any further details but according to the draft agreement which is under study by the State Governments, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have agreed to effect a saving of 100 tmc ft. and 25 tmc ft. respectively from their present use, in a phased manner over a period of 15 years.

The 125 tmc ft. thus saved will, according to the draft agreement, be apportioned on the following basis: 2 tmc ft. each for the three States to meet industrial and domestic water supply needs and out of the balance 119 tmc ft. Tamil Nadu will get 2 tmc ft., Karnataka 85 tmc ft. and Kerala 32 tmc ft.

The present use has been assessed as 489 tmc ft. in Tamil Nadu, 177 tmc ft. in Karnataka and 5 tmc ft. in Kerala. The quantity of water surplus to the actual needs, based on the present use, in good years and deficit, in lean years will be shared pro-rata of their present use among the three States.

The proposed Cauvery Valley Authority will collect data on availability of water at various points and regulate the available supplies among the three States in such a way as to ensure most equitable distribution of waters without adversely affecting the needs of existing ayacuts.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO DECEMBER 3, 1924

Mail steamers

Bombay, Dec 2: The Anchor Line "Olympia" sailed for Liverpool from Bombay on the 28th ultimo. P. and O. Mail Steamer "Naldera" with mails from Bombay of the 22nd arrived Port Said at 9 p.m. on the 30th ultimo and left there at 1 a.m. the following day. Ellerman's City and Hall Line Steamer "City of Manchester" is due in Bombay on the 11th December.

From Page One

Logjam ends; Houses to debate Constitution

However, the government refused to accede to a discussion on Adani indictment, arguing that the developments had taken place in a foreign country, the sources said.

Congress sources, however, maintained that the decision to agree to a debate on the Constitution was a "climbdown" by the government.

At the meeting with Mr. Birla, the sources said, it was agreed that the Samajwadi Party would be allowed to raise the Sambhal issue, Trinamool Congress the situation in Bangladesh and DMK the devastation caused by Cyclone Fengal, during Zero Hour in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

Mr. Rijiju also mentioned that the first Bill of this Session would be passed on Tuesday. The functioning of both Houses had been paralysed since the beginning of the Winter Session on November 25. The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha had functioned for just 67 and 93 minutes, respectively.

The development on Monday comes amid increasing isolation of the Congress over the stalling of Parliament over the Adani issue. Some Opposition parties felt that by stalling Parliament, the Opposition was falling into the trap of the government and would not be able to raise issues that concern people.

Opposition sources said that at a meeting of INDIA bloc parties on Monday morning, Mr. Gandhi had said that the Adani issue could not be dropped as it concerned the people. At this, some Left leaders had pointed out that other ways should be explored, such as a march to the Rashtrapati Bhavan or a dharna inside Parliament.

Following this, Congress Lok Sabha Deputy Leader Gaurav Gogoi and senior MP and Public Accounts Committee Chairman K.C. Venugopal met the Speaker and reiterated their demand for a two-day discussion on the Constitution. It was after this that Mr. Birla called the floor leaders of all parties for a meeting.

BJP meet likely to choose CM tomorrow

Mr. Shinde's son, Shrikant Shinde, MP, took to X to deny reports about his name being considered for the Deputy Chief Minister's position.

"The swearing-in ceremony of the Mahayuti government has been delayed, which has led to a surge in the discussions and rumours. Hon caretaker CM Shri Eknath Shinde had to take rest at his native place for two days due to health issues... There have been speculations about me becoming the DCM. But these news reports are baseless and unfounded," he posted.

Top sources in the Shiv Sena told *The Hindu* that the decision on the Deputy Chief Minister had not been made yet and it is not yet clear if Mr. Eknath Shinde will take the post or appoint someone else.

"We have asked for the Home portfolio. But the discussion on it has not yet taken place. We will be a part of the government. It will be a Shiv Sena DCM. We will have our share of Cabinet berths. But the decision on who the face of the DCM will be, has not yet been taken," a senior leader said.

Sources said that since Mr. Shinde was recovering, the discussion had not gone ahead. Mr. Shinde has sought 14 Ministerial berths, including the 10 his party had last held.

The demand for the remaining four Cabinet berths includes meaty portfolios, including Home. "It depends on how the BJP treats Shinde *saaheb*. If respectable treatment is given and key portfolios are handed (over), he might think of keeping the DCM position to himself. Else, he might even think of giving the position to someone else," a close aide told *The Hindu*.

Protesters barge into Bangladesh mission in Agartala, pull down flag

External Affairs Ministry expresses regret over the incident in Tripura capital, says government is taking action to step up security arrangements at Bangladesh missions in India; Dhaka says the breach has left its personnel with sense of insecurity

Syed Sajjad Ali
Kallol Bhattacherjee
AGARTALA/NEW DELHI

After a group of protesters entered the premises of the Assistant High Commission of Bangladesh in Tripura's capital Agartala, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Monday said the incident was "deeply regrettable".

The Bangladesh Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the incident had left the personnel at the mission with a sense of "insecurity", adding that the protesters were "allowed to aggress".

The MEA reiterated India's commitment to uphold the sanctity of diplomatic premises and promised enhanced security of the diplomatic missions of Bangladesh in India. Against the backdrop of the November 25 arrest of Hindu leader Chinmoy Krishna Das in Chittagong, a large group of protesters from the Hindu Sangharsh Samiti on Monday forced their entry into the Assistant High Commission, pulled down the National Flag of Bangladesh, and damaged items before being pushed out.

Hitting the streets: Activists stage protest over alleged atrocities on Hindus in Bangladesh in Agartala on Monday. PTI

"The incident of the breach of premises at the Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala is deeply regrettable. Diplomatic and consular properties should not be targeted under any circumstances. The government is taking action to step up security arrangements for the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi and their Deputy/Assistant high Commissions in the country," the MEA said in a statement.

The arrest of Mr. Das and the subsequent suspension of bank accounts of several of his associates in Bangladesh has caused tension. On Monday, members of the Hindu Sangharsh Samiti organised a protest in Agartala and raised slogans on the road leading to the mission. Witnesses said a large number of people entered the premises of the Assistant High Commission in the Kunjaban area, while their leaders were submitting a memorandum to the Assistant High Commissioner. The protesters removed the flag from the pole and damaged the mission's signage board before being driven out by the security personnel.

Tripura Minister Sushanta Chowdhury said an inquiry had been launched. Prior to visiting the Assistant High Commission, the members of the samiti held a street-corner meeting, where they condemned the alleged attacks and discrimination against Hindus in Bangladesh.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Dhaka said, "Bangladesh deeply resents the violent demonstration and attack". "The accounts received conclusively attest that the protesters were allowed to aggress into the premises, by breaking down the main gate of Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in a preplanned manner," it said.

Protests held in Mumbai

Hundreds of protesters, including members of right-wing groups such as the VHP, gathered outside the Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Mumbai on Monday, demanding the immediate release of Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das, who was arrested in the neighbouring country. They voiced concerns over "targeted attacks on minority Hindus" in Bangladesh.

Thousands take part in rally at border in West Bengal

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA/PETRAPOLE

Thousands of people, including monks from various Hindu religious factions and sects across West Bengal, took part in a demonstration at Petrapole on the India-Bangladesh border against the arrest of Hindu leaders in Bangladesh. BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari also led a rally to the border.

Concerned over the prevailing situation in Bangladesh, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee urged the Union government to seek the intervention of the United Nations in deploying a peacekeeping mission in the neighbouring country.

Ms. Banerjee said the Minister for External Affairs should apprise Parliament of India's stand on the current situation in Bangladesh.

"The statement from the Minister should come during the ongoing Winter Session, if the Prime Minister is unavailable to do the job himself," the Chief Minister said.

U.P. Cong. protests as police prevent team from visiting Sambhal

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Chaos unfolded outside the Uttar Pradesh Congress office in Lucknow on Monday when hundreds of party workers attempted to scale police barricades during a face-off with the police after a party delegation led by State Congress president Ajay Rai was prevented from leaving for Sambhal.

Mr. Rai, senior Congress leaders, and workers staged a sit-in outside the office. "The day the restrictions are lifted, a Congress delegation will go to Sambhal," Mr. Rai said. The police put some party leaders under house arrest.

"The incident was a well-planned strategy by the BJP to divide society on communal lines. With an eye on the 2027 Assembly polls, more such issues will be raised by the ruling party to polarise the society for electoral benefit," Anil Yadav, State Congress general secretary, said.

On November 30, the Sambhal district administration had issued prohibitory orders restricting outsiders from visiting the district till December 10.

Sambhal, a town in western Uttar Pradesh, has been tense since November 19 when a local court ordered the survey of a Mughal-era mosque following claims that a temple previously stood at the site. Violence broke out on November 24, the second day of the survey, when protesters clashed with the police, leading to stone-pelting and alleged gunshots being fired.

Five people were kiled and several others were injured in the clash.

The Uttar Pradesh police have denied allegations that they had fired at the protesters.

The Supreme Court has since ordered the Sambhal trial court to halt proceedings in the case and the survey.

No voter must be turned down, SC tells EC over increased voter limit

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Hearing a petition challenging the poll body's decision to enhance the maximum number of voters per polling station from 1,200 to 1,500, Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna on Monday told the Election Commission that "no voter should be turned down".

The petition said the move leads to disenfranchisement among the "teeming millions", especially the underprivileged, for whom the Constitution works. "We are concerned... no voter should be turned down. You have to explain your position," Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna, heading a Bench with Justice Sanjiv Kumar, addressed the EC.

The petition, filed by activist Indu Prakash Singh and represented by senior advocate A.M. Singhvi, advocate Talha Abdul Rahman and Shadan Farasat, challenged an August 7, 2024 communication of the EC. Rather than increasing the number of electronic voting machines (EVMs) or polling stations in every constituency, the EC has chosen to increase the number of electors per polling station, probably in a bid to lower the cost of election, it said.

The Election Commission of India, in a communication in August, increased the limit per booth to 1,500 voters. ANI

"The EC does not realise that such an approach is actually a very expensive step in democracy as it results in exclusion... [The] Representation of People Act, 1951 mandates the Election Commission to provide for a 'sufficient number of polling stations for every constituency'," the petitioner noted.

The petition said the increase would lead to crowding of polling stations, resulting in longer waiting hours and queues. These are factors which would prove unfriendly for daily wagers. The petition called for an immediate intervention from the court as the issue concerned various upcoming elections including in Delhi and Bihar. "Elections must not only be free and fair but also be seen to be free and fair and on the principles of equal participation of electors in the election process," the petition argued.

Chief Justice Khanna asked senior advocate Maninder Singh why the poll body has pushed the maximum limit per polling station from 1,200 (in rural areas) and 1,400 (urban areas) to a uniform 1,500 voters.

The petition had contended that the enhancement from 1,200 to 1,500 was "peculiar", and not backed by any fresh data, as there had been no Census conducted since 2011.

Mr. Singh said the maximum limit had been 1,500 voters since 2015. Electoral technology was advancing. "People have not complained. There is no problem about franchise," the senior advocate justified.

Chief Justice Khanna directed the EC to file an affidavit in three weeks.

CJI urged to undo changes made to court building

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAORA) on Monday asked Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna to undo two alterations made by his predecessor to the court building. The SCAORA, in its letter, conveyed that the changes made by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud (retired) did not "fully align with the Court's historical ethos and history as well as functional needs".

The top lawyers' body said "none of the representatives of the Bar were consulted" when glass partitions were put up in the open air corridors of the court or when the three-storey Judges' Library space was turned into the 'National Judicial Museum and Archive' (NJMA).

Deals for 26 Rafale-M jets, 3 Scorpene submarines to be signed: Navy chief

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

Navy chief Admiral Dinesh Tripathi on Monday acknowledged that the country's second nuclear ballistic missile submarine, *INS Arighaat*, successfully fired a Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) a few days back. In another important remark on the country's strategic nuclear programme, he said the first of the two nuclear attack submarines (SSN) to be indigenously designed and manufactured is expected to be ready by 2036-37.

Two multi-billion dollar deals under negotiation with France to procure 26 Rafale-M fighter jets and three additional Scorpene-class conventional submarines are in advanced stages and could be signed next month, the Navy chief said in response to a question at the annual press conference ahead of Navy Day.

India is in negotiation with France over a multi-billion dollar deal to procure 26 Rafale-M fighter jets soon. K. MURALI KUMAR

"It is just matter of completing the formalities of the acquisition process and we expect that if not this month, next month hopefully, this [Scorpène submarines] and Rafale-M deals should be signed."

On the deal for 26 Rafale-M jets, he said it was "one level short of taking it to the CCS [Cabinet Committee on Security]" for clearance, which will be followed by contract-signing. "It is a government-to-government deal and hence I expect it to happen fast," he said.

The deal for three Scorpene submarines is a repeat order to Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. (MDL), which is building them in partnership with Naval Group of France. Of the six submarines from the earlier contract, five have been inducted and the last one is expected to be commissioned later this month.

On the nuclear ballistic missile submarines (SSBN), Admiral Tripathi said the first one, *INS Arihant*, had done a number of deterrence patrols.

The second, *INS Arighaat*, which was commissioned recently, is undergoing trials, including missile test, he said.

"We did carry out test of missile... Launch was successful. Concerned agencies are examining as to what trajectory the missile took," he said on the recent K4 SLBM test with a range of 3,500 km from *INS Arighaat*.

Farmers stage protest at Delhi borders for MSP, compensation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Over a thousand farmers gathered at the Delhi-Noida boundary to press for their demands for land allocation and increased compensation for the land acquired by the government, the police said on Monday.

The protesters climbed over the barricades and containers to move forward as they raised flags and slogans. It resulted in long traffic snarls at various entry points into Delhi, including the DND flyway, Delhi Gate and Kalindi Kunj.

The farmers gathered at the Mahamaya flyover on the Dadri-Noida link road and began the march around 11.30 a.m.

According to Shivhari Meena, Additional Commissioner of Police, Noida, the police were in constant talks with farmers regarding the 'Delhi Chalo' march. "Yesterday [Sunday] also we spoke to them for three hours and have also prepared a three-tier security plan."

Farmers and Kisan Ekta Sangh members break police barricades during the protest march in Noida on Monday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

The protest was organised by the Bhartiya Kisan Parishad (BKP) along with other farmer groups, and it was being held to demand compensation and benefits related to agricultural reforms, including a legal guarantee for the Minimum Support Price.

The BKP, along with the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha and other farmers' organisations earlier announced it will be marching towards Delhi on Monday to demand compensation and benefits under the new agricultural laws. Farmers from 20 districts of Uttar Pradesh, including Aligarh and Agra, took part.

Maharashtra village plans a 're-election' with ballot paper; police impose curfew

Snehal Mutha
MUMBAI

The police have imposed a curfew at Markadwadi village in Malshiras tehsil of Solapur district. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Expressing distrust over the functioning of electronic voting machines (EVMs) in their village during the recent Maharashtra Assembly election, people from Markadwadi, a small village in Malshiras tehsil of Solapur district, have decided to hold a "re-election" using ballot papers on Tuesday.

However, the police have imposed a curfew in the village till December 5 to maintain law and order.

"As per the Constitution, the Election Commission has been entrusted with conducting these elections. This is nothing but a mock exercise now. The available legal remedy in case of doubts is an election petition," a senior government official told *The Hindu*.

Despite winning by a margin of 13,147 votes in Malshiras, the newly elected MLA, Uttamrao Jankar of the Nationalist Congress Party (SP), had demanded that a voting exercise using ballot paper be conducted as he had failed to get a lead in Markadwadi. He is of the view that the village has his most loyal voters, who had consistently given him a lead in the village in past elections. This time, Mr. Jankar's opponent Ram Satpute from the BJP received 1,003 votes whereas he only got 843 votes. The total number of voters in the village is about 1,900.

A village resident, seeking anonymity, said that it was unbelievable that Mr. Jankar did not get a lead in the village, given his popularity.

"There is also the caste equation. Jankar belongs to the Dhangar community, this village is also a Dhangar-dominated village. Villagers came together at the gram panchayat level and made an appeal to the tehsildar to hold a re-election," the resident said.

Their request was turned down so they have decided to conduct the exercise themselves.

A curfew has been imposed in Markadwadi village under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023. At least 50 police personnel have been deployed there.

"We have also explained to the villagers about what is legal and illegal and the consequences of their actions. The prohibitory orders are in place; if people still come together then the law will be enforced," Atul Kulkarni, Superintendent of Police, Solapur, said.

"We are just checking where the votes went, whether EVMs are at fault, and why the administration is opposing such an exercise. They are inducing fear in people, but no matter what, the election will be conducted," Mr. Jankar told *The Hindu*.

A BJP worker and supporter of Mr. Satpute said, "Satpute got the votes on merit. He brought funds to this village, and people voted on that basis. It has nothing to do with EVMS."

Opposition stalls both Houses over Adani row and Sambhal violence

First week of Winter Session, which started on November 25, had been a washout; Opposition leaders were seen going to the Speaker's office together after Lok Sabha was first adjourned; Dhankhar calls upon members to maintain decorum

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Both Houses of Parliament were adjourned for the day on Monday after Opposition members disrupted the proceedings over the Adani indictment row, the recent violence at Sambhal in Uttar Pradesh and the conflict in Manipur.

The first week of the Winter Session, which started on November 25, had been washed out over the same issues and the start of the second week was no different.

At 11 a.m., when the Lok Sabha proceedings began, members of the Opposition Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance bloc raised slogans over the indictment of industrialist Gautam Adani on bribery charges in a U.S. court and the Sambhal violence.

While Speaker Om Birla urged them to allow the Question Hour, the Opposition members did not relent. He then adjourned the House until noon.

When the House reconvened, similar scenes were witnessed. Amid the din, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal introduced the Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024.

Sandhya Ray of the BJP, who was in the Chair, urged the Opposition members to allow the House to function, pointing out that voters of the country were watching and their issues need to be raised.

With an unrelenting Opposition, Ms. Ray adjourned the House for the day.

Before the House assembled for the day, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju was seen speaking to Congress leader K.C. Venugopal, the party's Deputy Leader in the House, Gaurav Gogoi, and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam leader T.R. Baalu.

After the first adjournment, some of the Opposition leaders, including Mr. Venugopal, Mr. Baalu, Kalyan Banerjee of the Trinamool Congress and Samajwadi Party members Dharmendra Yadav and Zia ur Rehman Barq, were seen going to the Speaker's office together.

Stalling session: Opposition MPs protest over the Adani row and Sambhal issue in the Lok Sabha on Monday. ANI

Disallowed 20 notices

In the Rajya Sabha too, the House was adjourned for the day without transacting any substantial business as the Opposition parties sought to raise the same issues.

Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar disallowed 20 notices served under Rule 267, including eight for a discussion on the U.S. indictment on the alleged payment of $265 million in bribes by the Adani Group to secure solar power supply contracts.

Stating that the notices do not call for admittance, Mr. Dhankhar quoted the Murphy's Law that states, "anything that can go wrong will go wrong".

"It appears that there exists a deliberate algorithm to actualise Murphy's Law in this august House, consequently impeding the proper functioning of Parliament. We find ourselves achieving precisely the antithesis of what our Constitution ordains," he said.

The Chairman appealed to the Opposition in the name of the framers of the Constitution to allow the functioning of Parliament. "Don't make it dysfunctional," he said.

As the Opposition parties continued to raise the issues, he adjourned the proceedings till noon. While Congress MPs sought to raise the charges against the Adani Group, four notices were served by Samajwadi Party (SP) members to raise the law-and-order issues in Sambhal.

Other notices under Rule 267, a rule that calls for suspending the listed business of the House to take up discussion on that particular issue, pertained to the violence in Manipur, increase in crimes in Delhi, atrocities against Hindus in Bangladesh and special assistance to the flood-hit Wayanad district of Kerala.

The House was adjourned until noon because of the continued Opposition protests. When the Upper House met at noon, Opposition members raised their issues, including the allegations of bribery against the Adani Group, the recent violence in Sambhal and the conflict in Manipur, but Mr. Dhankhar said "nothing will go on record".

He then took up the Question Hour as Tiruchi Siva of the DMK sought to raise an issue, but made it clear that he would allow it only after the members took their seats and maintained decorum.

As the protests continued, the Chairman adjourned the House for the day.

Akal Takht hands out punishment to SAD leader Sukhbir Badal

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

Days after Sukhbir Singh Badal tendered his resignation as president of the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) after he was declared '*tankhaiya*', or guilty of religious misconduct, the Akal Takht awarded him '*tankhah*' (punishment) on Monday.

Directing the working committee of the SAD to accept the resignation, it asked the panel to submit a report in this regard in three days.

Mr. Badal and Sukhdev Dhindsa, the rebel Akali Dal leader, have been asked to perform the duties of a '*sewadar*', sitting outside the Golden Temple and other Takhts for one hour each for two days. Also, they have been directed to clean the utensils and shoes of devotees.

Larger parties of INDIA dragging feet on seat-sharing talks: CPI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The national council of the Communist Party of India (CPI) has observed that larger parties in the INDIA bloc drag their feet when it comes to seat-sharing negotiations.

CPI general secretary D. Raja said the CPI and other Left parties have unblemished secular credentials and they could not be left out of electoral battles. He said the "cold feet" developed by larger parties are harming the Left politically, and the CPI would raise the issue with other parties at appropriate levels.

Mr. Raja said while the INDIA bloc was formed to take on the BJP-RSS and in defence of the values of the Constitution with much enthusiasm, the execution part has not been smooth. "With seat-sharing taking place only at the very end of nominations for elections, smaller parties are left with no option and have no clarity on which seats to contest and be prepared for. These factors are proving detrimental to the INDIA bloc as has been seen in the cases of many States recently," he said.

The CPI decided to observe December 10 as Protest and Demands Day to demand a Joint Parliamentary Committee to investigate the alleged wrongdoings of the Adani Group and expose the Centre for its role in promoting crony capitalism.

Congress demands CBI probe into 'ponzi scam' in Gujarat

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday sought a Supreme Court-monitored CBI probe into a ₹6,000-crore 'ponzi' scam in Gujarat, allegedly carried out by a person associated with the BJP.

Addressing a press conference, Gujarat Congress chief and Rajya Sabha member Shaktisinh Gohil alleged that Bhupendra Jhala used his BJP connections to lure unsuspecting people to invest in his "ponzi scheme" that promised to double one's money within two years. He said that though the Gujarat Police had registered a first information report (FIR) against Mr. Jhala, he was absconding.

"We want the matter to be investigated by the CBI under the monitoring of the Supreme Court," Mr. Gohil said.

He said that the poor and middle-class people, farmers, and pensioners were among those who lost their hard-earned savings.

Mr. Gohil displayed Mr. Jhala's pictures with prominent BJP leaders, including Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

He said that these photographs were enough to win the trust of unsuspecting people who invested in his company.

"They thought that their money is safe because he is close to the BJP," Mr. Gohil said.

Government of Odisha, "e"- Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No. C.C.E.Dkl.(R&B)12/2024-25
Letter No.2352/ Dt.29/11/2024 Email Id- sedklpwd@gmail.com

The Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system to be received in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Repair & Rehabilitation of Bridge works as detailed below:

1.	Name of the work	: Repair & Rehabilitation of Bridge works.
2.	No of works	: 02 (Two) Nos.
3.	Estimated Cost	: Rs.1.34 Crore to 5.66 Crore (as given in column No.03 of table)
4.	Cost of tender paper	: Rs.10,000.00
5.	Class of contractor	: 'A' Class & 'B' Class (as given in column No.07 of table)
6.	Period of Completion of work	: 05 (Five) to 07 (Seven) (as given in column No.08 of table)
7.	Date and time of availability of bid Document in the website	: From Dt.06.12.2024 to 5.00 P.M. of Dt.20.12.2024
8.	Date of opening of bid	: Dt.21.12.2024 at 11.00 A.M.

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE biding only, further details can be seen from the e- Procurement Portal : www.tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal
B-710: OIPR - 34132/11/0021/2425

KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - Tender Notice
Office of the Chief Engineer(Commercial &Tariff),Vydyuthi Bhavanam,Thiruvananthapuram

Tender invited from Utilities and Traders for banking power with KSEB Ltd during the period from 01.02.2025 to 30.09.2025
Bid Document No.CE(C&T)/Banking Tender-2/2024-25 dated 30.11.2024 for Banking of power
Last date of Submission of Bid - 18-12-2024 (2 pm)
For further details visit www.kseb.in Ref : PR/MC1/F343/2024

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NOTICE
No.SC2/05/2024/EoI/solar fencing Dated: 30.11.2024

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, the Chief Engineer (AE), Agricultural Engineering Department, 487, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035 invites **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)** for Empanelment of eligible firms with already approved Fixed rate contract rates for the year 2024-25 and 2025-26 for the Design, Fabrication and Installation of Solar Powered Fencing under National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) subsidy scheme as detailed below as per the terms and conditions and detailed specification mentioned in the EoI document.

EOI No.	EOI for the supply of	Cost of EoI document
AED / SC2 / 05 / 2024 / EoI / solar fencing	Expression of Interest (EoI) for Empanelment of Firms for Design, Fabrication and Installation of Solar Powered Fencing under National Agriculture Development Programme (NADP) subsidy scheme to be implemented by Agricultural Engineering Department in Tamil Nadu for the year 2024-25 and 2025-26.	Rs.15,000/- + 12% GST

The EOI documents are available at the Office of the Chief Engineer (AE), Chennai-35 for sale. Payment may be made by means of Demand Draft drawn in the name of Chief Engineer (AE), payable at Chennai. The filled up EoI documents along with supporting documents specified in EoI document shall be submitted to the Chief Engineer(AE), AED,Nandanam, Chennai in person or by post.
Expression of Interest (EoI) documents are available for free download at website: aed.tn.gov.in
DIPR/5248/Tender/2024 Chief Engineer (AE)

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA NIYAMITHA
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Executive Engineer, K.R.Sagara Division, K.R. Sagara
TENDER NOTIFICATION NO - 07/2024-25 Dated : 02-12-2024

The Executive Engineer, K.R. Sagara Division, K.R.Sagara, Srirangapatna Taluk, Mandya Dist. on behalf of the Managing Director CNNL Bengaluru has invited tender through KPPP Portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** In the form of **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION** format and the details are as here under.,

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender (Rs. in Crore)	Period for completion	RFQ doc. Fee (Rs. In lakhs)
1.	Development and Operation / Maintenance of Proposed upgradation of Cauvery Brindavan Garden under PPP at Krishna Rajasagara Dam, Srirangapatana Taluk, Mandya District/call-2	2615.96/-	Four and Half years for Construction. 30 Years of O/M.	2.60/-

RFQ document fee is to be paid in the form of DD, in favour of the undersigned office. Any further information Or clarification for the above said work can be obtained from the undersigned office during the office hours & from the above said website.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
K.R. Sagara Division, K.R. Sagara.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(www.kpwd.gov.in)
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division,
2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 01
Telephone No. 080-22133370,
Email ID: eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home
Tender Notification No. 23/2024-25 Dtd- 30.11.2024

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD No.2 NORTH Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP. Tender Notification are Published for 01 works **(Rs. 700.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. **EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.**

Eligible contractors interested in tendering for the work may apply for the tender through e-procurement.

1. Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 09.12.2024**

2. The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **10.12.2024 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

For more details contact this office.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.
DIPR/CP/3553/Zen/2024-25

e-mail ID - supenger_rbjyp@yahoo.co.in; Phone No.-06854-231528
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, JEYPORE (R&B) CIRCLE, JEYPORE.
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)- Bid Identification No.C.C.E.J.C(R&B)-09/2024-25
No. 4114 Date. 29.11.2024

1.	Nature of the Work	: BUILDING WORKS
2.	Total No. of Works	: 06 (Six) Nos.
3.	Tender Cost	: Rs.100.52 to 276.01 Lacs.
4.	Period of Completion	: 07 (Seven) to 11 (Eleven) Calendar Months.
5.	Cost of Bid Document	: Rs.10,000/-
6.	Bid Security (EMD)	: Rs.1,00,500 to 2,76,000 As per column no.06 of IFB
7.	Class of Contractor	: "B" & "A" Class as per d no.05 of TCN & according to Financial Eligibility
8.	Date & time of availability of bid Document in the portal.	: From 11.00 hours of 07.12.2024 to 17.00 hours of 23.12.2024.
9.	Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal.	: 17.00 hours of 23.12.2024.
10.	Opening date of Bid	: 10.00 hours of 24.12.2024
11.	Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid	: Chief Construction Engineer, Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal https://tendersodisha.gov.in .
Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.
(I/C) Chief Construction Engineer, Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore.
B-719 : OIPR-34108/11/0014/2425

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR
e-Procurement Notice No. ACECIC-07 / 2024-25

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Name of Work	Cost of Work (Rs.in Lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs.) E.M.D	Cost of Bid documents (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Bid documents available online for bidding From	Bid documents available online for bidding To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	Period of completion of work
ACE, CIC, Bhubaneswar	PID-04/ 2024-25	C.C.Lining of Sukal Distributary from RD.10.00 Km to 15.800 Km.	778.23	778300/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" & "Special" Class	05.12.2024 At 10.00 Hours	19.12.2024 At 17.00 Hours	20.12.2024 At 11.00 Hours	12 (Twelve Calendar Month)

e-mail ID : - secic_dowr@yahoo.com .
Further details conditions can be seen from Govt. website www.tenderorissa.gov.in
Additional Chief Engineer, Central Irrigation Circle
A - 654 OIPR-32160/11/0007/2425

ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ, ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
(E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com ; Tel No. :- 0680-2404287)
At/Po :- Ambapua, Near Income Tax Office, Berhampur-760011. Ganjam, Odisha

No. e-tender //3929 // RWC// BAM// Dated 30.11.2024 E-Mail/E-despatch
1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Online Tender / 13-2024-25/BPR

1) The partial modification of Road works under PERIODICAL MAINTENANCE vide above identification has been made as follows.

1.	Date of Availability of tender	:	20.12.2024 to 03.01.2025 upto 5.30 PM instead of 05.12.2024 to 20.12.2024 up to 5.30 PM
2.	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	:	01.01.2025 at 5.30 PM instead of 18.12.2024 at 5.30 PM
3.	Date of opening of Technical Bid	:	04.01.2025 at 11.00 AM instead of 21.12.2024 at 11.00 AM
4.	Date of opening of Financial Bid	:	Will be intimated later on

All other contents will remain unchanged.
Chief Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur
O-761 : OIPR-25071/11/0020/2425

INBRIEF

PM watches *Sabarmati Report* with his colleagues

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday watched *The Sabarmati Report*, said to be based on the burning of the Sabarmati Express in Gujarat's Godhra on February 27, 2002. The film, starring Vikrant Massey, Raashi Khanna, and Ridhi Dogra, was screened at the Balayogi Auditorium in the Parliament Library building. After watching the film, Mr. Modi shared photographs on his X handle. "Joined fellow NDA MPs at a screening of 'The Sabarmati Report.' I commend the makers of the film for their effort," he said. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, and several MPs attended the screening.

Man held in Odisha for killing pig on stage, eating its meat

A man has been arrested in Odisha's Ganjam district for allegedly killing a pig on stage and eating its raw meat while portraying the role of a demon in a traditional 'jatra' (play) performance. The man, Bimbadhar Gouda, was booked by the Forest Department for killing the animal during the play, which was based on the Ramayana. He had procured the pig too. The play organiser has been arrested. Other actors who tried to eat the meat on stage are absconding. The incident occurred on November 24 at Ralaba village under the Hinjili block but gained public attention later when visuals of the act surfaced online and went viral.

Putin to visit India early next year to attend annual summit

Modi and Putin are expected to discuss possible peace moves in the Ukraine war, purchase of crude oil imports from Russia and take forward the new 'economic road map' for 2030

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

In a sign of closer engagement between India and Russia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has invited Russian President Vladimir Putin to India for a summit early next year.

The dates are yet to be decided for Mr. Putin's first visit to India since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the Russian President's foreign policy adviser, Yury Ushakov, said on Monday, confirming that the Kremlin has received India's invitation.

The announcement comes weeks after External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Russian Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov in India for an intergovernmental meeting, and days ahead of a visit by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to Russia this weekend, indicating that preparatory talks for the visit are under way.

Significantly, Mr. Ushakov confirmed that Mr. Putin would hold the annual summit with Mr. Modi during the visit, which means that the 23rd summit would be held just months after the previous summit was held in Moscow in July 2024.

The dates are yet to be decided for Putin's first visit to India since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. FILE PHOTO

Taking turns

"Our leaders have an agreement to hold meetings once a year. This time, it's our turn," Mr. Ushakov said at a media briefing in Moscow, says a press release by the Russian Embassy in India. "We will figure out the tentative dates early next year."

In addition to bilateral ties, Mr. Modi and Mr. Putin are expected to discuss possible peace moves in the Ukraine war, particularly as their meet is expected to take place as Donald Trump takes office as the U.S. President.

Mr. Modi became one of the few leaders in 2024 to visit both Moscow and Kyiv, where he met President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

Mr. Jaishankar has said that India is able to convey positions between the two sides during the war to help end the conflict.

The offer was welcomed in Moscow, where Mr. Putin thanked leaders of India, China and other countries for their efforts, and has also praised Mr. Trump for backing peace efforts.

Mr. Putin's visit is expected to take forward the new "economic road map" for 2030 that the leaders have agreed to in terms of doubling bilateral trade to $100 billion and having more trade routes, including the recently operationalised Chennai-Vladivostok maritime trade corridor to provide fresh supplies to Russia's far east.

They will also continue talks on the purchase of discounted crude oil imports from Russia, which rose to nearly $60 billion last year.

"We do appreciate very much Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mediation offer and his efforts to promote peace. I believe that India could offer a perfect venue to host talks, especially between Mr. Putin and Mr. Trump," Dmitry Kiselev, general-director of the Sputnik News Agency, one of a number of Russian visitors in New Delhi recently, told *The Hindu*.

News that Mr. Putin will visit Delhi "soon" was first delivered by his spokesperson Dmitry Peskov during a virtual conference with Indian media in November.

(With inputs from Dinakar Peri)

Oxford study lauds PRAGATI system for fast-tracking projects

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The report says that PRAGATI system symbolises India's commitment to overcoming bureaucratic inertia

A study by Oxford University's Saïd Business School has lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi's PRAGATI infrastructure monitoring system for accelerating 340 projects worth $205 billion across the country and bringing about economic transformation.

The study titled "From gridlock to growth: how leadership enables India's PRAGATI ecosystem to power progress" was authored by Soumitra Dutta, dean at the SBS, and co-authored by associate fellow Mukul Pandya. It was presented at a symposium hosted by the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, on Monday.

The study looked at factors including close monitoring of infrastructure projects and their completion since 2015 through the PRAGATI system, an acronym for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation of projects.

"The platform symbolises India's commitment to overcoming bureaucratic inertia and fostering a Team India mindset and culture of accountability and efficiency," says the report. "PRAGATI has brought together diverse stakeholders from Central and State governments onto a single platform and this collaborative approach has been instrumental in addressing some of the complex challenges in infrastructure development, from land acquisition to inter-ministerial coordination," the report says.

The report adds that the economic impact of PRAGATI is evident. According to studies by the Reserve Bank of India and the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, for every rupee spent on infrastructure, India sees a gain of ₹2.5 to ₹3.5 in GDP. "By fast-tracking projects that provide services like roads, railways, water, and electricity, PRAGATI has improved the quality of life for millions of Indians. It has incorporated sustainability into its core operations, facilitated faster environmental clearances and promoted the use of green technologies. This holistic approach ensures that India's development is both inclusive and sustainable," the report says.

Data on Union government job quotas missing from DoPT's latest annual report

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Union government's Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has removed data on reservation in Union government jobs and positions from its Annual Report (2023-24) released last month.

A table – which contains details about all Union government positions across Ministries and departments, and the number of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, and Other Backward Class employees across Groups A, B, C, and D – has been a part of the chapter on reservation in all of the DoPT's annual reports.

The DoPT has not yet responded to *The Hindu's* queries on why the table was left out this time.

On Monday, the Adivasi Adhikar Rashtriya Manch (AARM), a Left-affiliated rights body, said that "deliberate concealment" of data on reservation in government jobs had emerged as a primary concern at a national convention held on Sunday on the "exclusion of adivasis from jobs".

> Marginalised communities can't even go to court because there is no consolidated data of how many reserved posts remain vacant
>
> **BRINDA KARAT**
> CPI(M) leader

Professor Vikas Rawal of Jawaharlal Nehru University, who is associated with the AARM's Centre for Adivasi Research and Development, said that the DoPT's reports from 2018 onwards have not provided complete data on reservation across Union government posts. "If you peruse the Ministry of Finance's Pay Research Unit records, it would appear that there are over 30 lakh Central government employees, but in the DoPT's annual reports since 2018, the data on reservation are provided for just about 19 lakh employees, with no explanation as to which employees are being left out," Mr. Rawal said.

Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader Brinda Karat said that this "deliberate concealment" of information was a way to "disarm" marginalised communities from seeking and asserting their rights. "They can't even go to court because there is no complete, consolidated data of how many jobs there are, how many reserved posts have been filled and how many remain vacant," she said.

In a charter of eight demands that has emerged from the convention, three calls for complete and comprehensive data on reservation in all government jobs across Ministries, Departments, public sector enterprises, banks, educational and financial institutions, government health sector, and scheme workers. The demands call for reservation to be implemented in all government recruitments, including in contractual posts, posts on deputation, promotions, as well as the private sector.

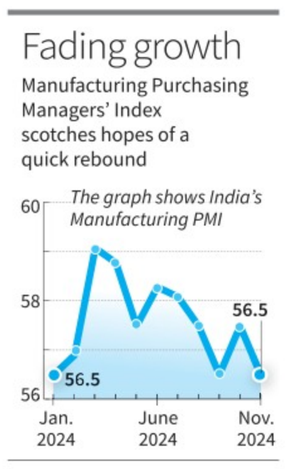
Manufacturing growth slips to 11-month low in November

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Private sector industrial activity appears to be on a relatively weak wicket even in the third quarter of 2024-25, scotching hopes of a quick rebound from the sharp tumble in the July-September quarter when manufacturing growth slipped to a mere 2.2% and GDP grew at a seven-quarter low pace of 5.4%.

Factory activity expansion in India's private sector fell to a joint 11-month low in November, while firms raised prices at the swiftest pace in over 11 years as input cost pressures began to bite, as per the survey-based HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI).

The index reading fell to 56.5 from 57.5 in October – a reading of over 50 indicates a rise in activity levels. Output levels at surveyed factories grew at the slowest pace since December 2023.



For the first time since August 2017, factories also reported an uptick in their stocks of finished goods, breaking a seven-odd-year sequence of such piled-up stocks declining every month. This signals a mismatch of sorts between production levels and end-users' demand through last month.

New business orders and production levels increased at a softer pace as favourable demand conditions clashed with fierce competition and price pressures. Fresh export orders gained pace to surge at the highest pace in four months, spurring some optimism that goods exports may see yet another healthy uptick after October's 28-month high growth of 17.25%. Officials had attributed the revival in exports to improved demand from developed markets for the Christmas festivities this year. Incidentally, employment levels continued to be ramped up for the ninth successive month, albeit at a lower scale than in October. Firms reported hiring staff on both permanent and temporary bases.

'Make in India' has become 'Make-believe in India': Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The fall in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) numbers for the last quarter highlights the "unimpressive" manufacturing growth, the Congress said on Monday.

In a statement, Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh said the trend indicates that the Narendra Modi government's flagship "Make in India" scheme has become "Make-believe in India".

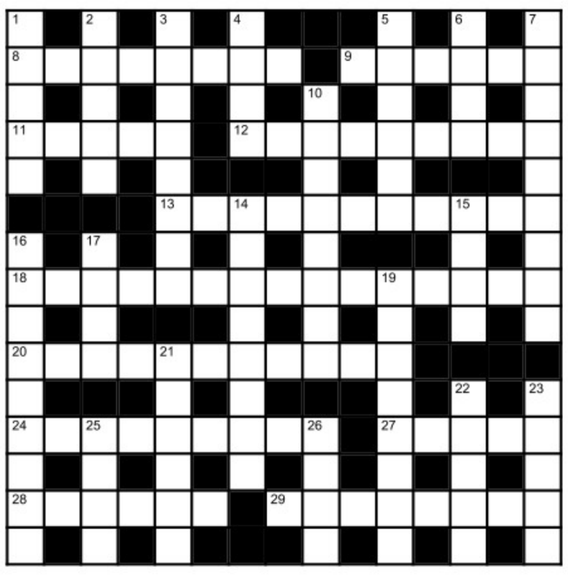
Mr. Ramesh said the GDP growth figures for the quarter July-September, released three days back, revealed a "dramatic fall". Of equal concern is the manufacturing growth, which has slowed down to a "shocking" 2.2%, the Congress leader said, adding that export growth has also decelerated to 2.8%.

TH CROSSWORD + 14346

(set by Karaoke)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 A rogue takes primary education to get hold over the world of scholars (8)
9 Very strong emotion on final wide ball (6)
11 Lady enters into crook's compound (5)
12 Yield to split in certain party at Centre (9)
13 What a setter would say when he couldn't set a grid? (5,4,2)
18 Doesn't rely on public utilities. Stops solving crosswords? (5,3,3,4)
20 Playing tennis with niece lacking consciousness (11)
24 Most of energy goes into regular events in French café (9)
27 Original Inuits can get gas in this house (5)
28 Number one and the same (6)
29 Home loans arranged without second mortgage for places that lead to sewers (8)

Down

1 Why you shout on poor baby fish? (5)
2 Sensational setter indulging in pleasure-seeking (5)
3 Maybe old news about model's betrayals (3-5)
4 Primarily business institutions appoint sons in jobs for boys (4)
5 Wine shop buying empty bottles around drug party in retreat by academy (6)
6 Multiplied money, say (4)
7 Gets to know of fire spreading in corners (9)
10 Heavy weight hot women avoided tight short gowns (5,3)
14 Bully-boys get furious mainly with unfair treatment by society (8)
15 Lie in wait, conceal uniform for a bird (4)
16 It measures heights in real time? Terrific! (9)
17 "Reject divorce, right away", ladies say (4)
19 View affirmative position for the audience (8)
21 Maybe Anaesthetist's song (6)
22 Silly play regularly in a deceitful manner (5)
23 Actors winning Oscar for taxi (5)
25 Loudly make fun of those which support balls (4)
26 Drink in honour of an event missing essential taste in every detail (2,1,1)

SUDOKU

	1	2			8			
		5	1					9
				6			1	
5		8			3		6	4
3								2
2	4		5			8		3
	2			1				
8					6	3		
			2			7	8	

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

B	E	R	E	F	T	■	T	E
L	■	E	■	L	■	■	X	■
B	A	S	S	S	A	X	■	P
M	■	P	■	G	■	H	■	L
D	E	G	E	N	E	R	A	T
■	■	■	C	■	O	■	R	■
P	E	T	A	L	■	■	■	M
A	■	■	■	E	■	O	■	■
U	N	F	A	S	T	E	N	■
T	■	L	■	■	■	I	■	E
H	A	R	P	■	V	O	C	I
L	■	H	■	I	■	S	■	L
A	E	R	O	S	O	L	■	B
O	■	R	■	L	■	■	T	■
N	O	N	F	A	T	■	R	E

P	I	B	C	O	R	N		
H	■	L	■	C	■	M		
E	N	E	R	A	T	E	■	O
■	O	■	R	■	■	L	■	N
M	A	N	D	O	L	I	N	
■	E	■	O	■	■	U		
S	H	A	W	M				
■	I	■	E	■	U			
V	O	C	I	F	E	R	A	T
S	■	L	■	I	■	O		
U	C	C	I	N	A			
T	■	L	■	G				
R	E	C	E	S	S			

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	8	5	6	9	7	1	2	3
2	1	9	5	8	3	7	4	6
6	7	3	4	1	2	5	9	8
5	6	1	2	7	9	8	3	4
7	4	8	3	6	1	9	5	2
9	3	2	8	5	4	6	7	1
1	2	7	9	4	8	3	6	5
8	5	4	7	3	6	2	1	9
3	9	6	1	2	5	4	8	7

FAITH

No excuse for inaction

While the Mahabharata talks about *vidhi*, it points out that we must not use *vidhi* as an excuse for inaction, elaborated P.T. Seshadri in a discourse. When Yudhishthira blames *vidhi* for the plight of the Pandavas, Draupadi tells him what the deva guru Brihaspathi had said about *vidhi*. A person who simply blames *vidhi*, and does nothing to change a situation, is an *adhama* among humans. Draupadi wonders how Yudhishthira can take the insult to his wife so lightly.

The Pandavas send Lord Krishna as a messenger to negotiate with the Kauravas. They are prepared to settle for just five villages. Instead of seeking revenge for what the Kauravas did to Draupadi, they are thinking of land for themselves. Is Draupadi's modesty equal to just five villages? Pillai Lokachariar, in his Srivachana Bhushanam, says that the Ramayana is the story of Sita, not the story of Rama, and this is its significance. The essence of the Mahabharata is the role of Krishna, the messenger of the Pandavas. Draupadi laments to Krishna that the Pandavas have equated her dignity with five villages, and asks if this is fair. Pillai Lokachariar observes that when Draupadi wept, Lord Krishna felt that the Pandavas too, like the Kauravas, deserved to die. He spared their lives because he did not want Draupadi to be widowed. He could easily have changed Duryodhana's mind and got him to agree to giving the Pandavas their share. But Draupadi had surrendered to Him and He wanted the insult to her to be avenged. That is why He ensured that His mission to the Kaurava court was unsuccessful. It was Krishna's intention that there should be a war.

INBRIEF

RBI lifts loan disbursal curbs on Sachin Bansal-led fintech

Fintech firm Navi Finserv Ltd. said on Monday that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has lifted the restrictions on its lending operations with immediate effect. The firm had addressed deficiencies and revamped processes and systems to RBI's satisfaction, it said. The firm's CEO Sachin Bansal said they were "committed to ensuring enduring compliance, especially with respect to fairness on loan pricing", and maintaining the highest governance standards.

Stocks of six Adani Group slide; Adani Total Gas dips 5%

Shares of six Adani firms ended lower on Monday with Adani Total Gas falling almost 5% to ₹772 on the BSE while Adani Energy Solutions tanked 4.04% to ₹806.60. NDTV slid 1.29%, Adani Wilmar by 1.23%, Adani Power by 1% and Adani Enterprises by 0.28%. In the morning, Adani Green Energy jumped 9% after group chairman Gautam Adani committed to compliance. The stock surged to ₹1,445 but gave up most of the early gains and ended at ₹1,327.95, up 0.26%. PTI

Shares in major Adani group investor GQG plunge

Shares of Australian-listed GQG Partners tumbled 13% on Monday after UBS downgraded the stock and said the firm may have lost A$600 million ($390 million) in funds under management in the two days following the indictment of Adani Group executives. GQG is a major backer of Adani Group, whose founder Gautam Adani and seven company associates have been indicted by U.S authorities on bribery charges. The Adani Group says the allegations are baseless. REUTERS

Winter Chill: Bangladesh halves power purchase from Adani Power amid dispute

While both sides differ on pending dues, Adani Power had cut supplies to Bangladesh over payment delays; Bangladesh has now told Adani it needed only half the power this winter

Reuters
DHAKA

Pricey deal: Adani Power charges the highest rate among all Indian suppliers to the country. REUTERS

Bangladesh halved the power it buys from Adani Power, citing lower winter demand, government officials told *Reuters*, amid disagreements over dues running into hundreds of millions of dollars.

Adani Power, whose founder has been accused by U.S. authorities of being involved in a bribery scheme in India, halved supply to Bangladesh on October 31 over payment delays as the country battles a foreign exchange shortage. Subsequently, Bangladesh told the firm to keep supplying only half the power for now, officials said, although it will keep paying its old dues.

"We were shocked and angry when they cut our supply," said Md. Rezaul Karim, chairperson of the state-run Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB). "Winter demand is now down, so we have told them there is no need to run both units of the plant," he said.

Adani has been supplying power under a 25-year contract signed in 2017 under ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, from a $2-billion power plant in India's eastern State of Jharkhand that has two units, each with capacity of about 800 megawatts.

A document seen by *Reuters* showed the plant ran at only 41.82% capacity in November, the lowest this year, with one unit shut since November 1.

Two BPDB sources said Bangladesh had bought about 1,000 MW a month from Adani last winter, adding Adani had asked the board when it would resume normal purchases, but had not received a definitive answer.

'No sign of pact review'

An Adani Power spokesperson said the firm was continuing supply to Bangladesh, although mounting dues were a significant concern, making plant operations unsustainable.

"We are in constant dialogue with senior officials of BPDB and the government, who have assured us that our dues will be cleared soon," said the spokesperson.

The firm was confident Bangladesh would fulfil its commitments, just as Adani had upheld its contract obligations, he added.

Mr. Karim said Bangladesh owed Adani about $650 million and paid about $85 million last month and $97 million in October. An Adani Power source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the dues had jumped to about $900 million, hurting its debt profile and risking a higher cost of funds.

Bangladesh wants to sharply lower prices under the Adani deal, unless it is cancelled by a court, which has called for an investigation into it, the de facto Minister for Power and energy told *Reuters*.

The Adani Power spokesperson said the firm had no indication that Bangladesh was reviewing its power purchase pact.

Adani charges the highest rate of all Indian suppliers to Bangladesh, a government document seen by *Reuters* showed.

Its cost per unit was 14.87 taka during the fiscal year that ended June 30 compared with an average of 9.57 for all Indian suppliers. The retail price in Bangladesh is 8.95 taka a unit, leading to an annual power subsidy bill of 320 billion taka ($2.7 billion).

"Because the prices are high, the government has to subsidise," said Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan, Bangladesh's power and energy adviser. "We would like power prices, not only from Adani, to come down below average retail prices," he elaborated.

Govt. scraps windfall tax on domestic crude oil, export of fuels

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The government scrapped 30-month old windfall tax on domestically-produced crude oil and export of jet fuel (ATF), diesel and petrol following a decline in international oil prices.

Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary tabled a notification in Rajya Sabha scrapping the levy on crude oil produced by firms like State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and exports of fuels done by companies like Reliance Industries.

The notification rescinded the June 30, 2022 order and withdrew levy of special additional excise duty on crude oil (which is refined into fuels like petrol and diesel) and export of aviation turbine fuel (ATF), diesel and petrol, he said.

Alongside, the road and infrastructure cess on petrol and diesel exports has been withdrawn.

India first imposed windfall profit taxes on July 1, 2022 joining nations that tax super normal profits of energy companies.

At that time, export duties of ₹6 a litre each were levied on petrol and ATF and ₹13 a litre on diesel. A ₹23,250 per tonne windfall tax on domestic crude output was also imposed.

The government had garnered about ₹25,000 crore through the levy in the first year of its implementation, ₹13,000 crore in 2023-24 and ₹6,000 crore so far this year.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	80,248	0.56%
US Dollar	84.72	-0.14
Gold	79,200	-0.25
Brent oil	71.68	—

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2457.05	-6.10
Adani Ports	1215.80	25.75
Apollo Hosp	7065.80	236.90
Asian Paints	2479.05	-0.55
Axis Bank	1137.10	0.80
Bajaj Auto	9130.35	96.70
Bajaj Finserv	1596.65	16.70
Bajaj Finance	6650.65	74.75
Bharat Elec	306.90	-1.10
Bharti Airtel	1643.60	16.45
BPCL	294.15	2.05
Britannia Ind	4907.25	-33.90
Cipla	1507.70	-26.20
Coal India	421.70	5.30
Dr Reddys Lab	1221.75	19.45
Eicher Motors	4820.70	-11.15
Grasim Ind	2693.55	87.30
HCL Tech	1871.50	23.45
HDFC Bank	1804.70	8.65
HDFC Life	640.20	-17.55
Hero MotoCorp	4748.45	-13.25
Hindalco	662.60	6.40
Hind Unilever	2479.15	-17.00
ICICI Bank	1304.65	4.55
IndusInd Bank	990.95	-4.90
Infosys	1879.80	21.95
ITC	477.20	0.45
JSW Steel	989.80	23.80
Kotak Bank	1753.95	-11.30
L&T	3704.05	-20.75
M&M	3016.40	50.30
Maruti Suzuki	11239.30	165.10
NestleIndia	2251.85	17.20
NTPC	358.20	-5.45
ONGC	257.55	0.85
PowerGrid Corp	327.85	-1.55
Reliance Ind	1309.15	16.95
SBI Life	1422.05	-15.70
State Bank	836.40	-2.55
Shriram Finance Ltd.	3094.20	74.55
Sun Pharma	1808.55	27.65
TataConsumerProduct	957.00	-1.65
Tata Motors	790.05	3.60
Tata Steel	146.41	1.87
TCS	4276.65	5.80
Tech Mahindra	1745.95	33.65
Titan	3306.85	57.85
Trent Ltd.	6805.30	9.90
UltraTech Cement	11648.55	446.40
Wipro	584.55	6.70

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on December 02

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	84.50	84.82
Euro	88.90	89.24
British Pound	107.36	107.77
Japanese Yen (100)	56.25	56.47
Chinese Yuan	11.61	11.66
Swiss Franc	95.40	95.77
Singapore Dollar	62.80	63.04
Canadian Dollar	60.22	60.45
Malaysian Ringitt	18.95	19.04
Australian Dollar	54.87	55.08

Source:Indian Bank

NBFC advances to personal loans, MFIs to reduce: CRISIL

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Unsecured lending reported rapid growth in the past three fiscals at a CAGR of 45%

Unsecured loans given by non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) and credit to microfinance segments, which account for 23% of the overall NBFC assets under management (AUM), are expected to be impacted the most in the current and next fiscals, according to CRISIL Ratings' outlook.

"Recent regulatory pronouncements have brought to the fore the criticality of compliance – both in letter and spirit – and operational risk management," said Krishnan Sitaraman, chief ratings officer, CRISIL Ratings. "Additionally, asset quality metrics are weakening in the past few quarters in some segments. This has necessitated a recalibration of growth strategies, especially in unsecured loans and microfinance," he said.

Unsecured lending reported rapid growth in the past three fiscals at a CAGR of 45% and has become the third largest component of the overall NBFC AUM. "But that pace is seen moderating to 15-16% in this and next fiscals," he added.

The microfinance segment is facing asset quality headwinds, so its growth is expected to be muted this fiscal, with a cautious recovery pencilled in for next fiscal. That compares with 25% growth last fiscal, the rating agency said.

According to CRISIL Ratings, the growth in AUM of NBFCs is expected to moderate to 15-17% in the current and next fiscals, a 600-800 basis points (bps) decline from a strong 23% growth seen last fiscal, as they navigate the dynamics of the evolving operating and regulatory environments and recalibrate strategies.

MPC to kick off interest rate cuts this week: Nomura

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In contrast to most experts' expectations that the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) would hold off on interest rate cuts in this week's policy review in view of high inflation, Nomura's economists said on Monday they expect the panel to start slashing rates at its December 6 review and pare them by 100 basis points in this cycle. One basis point equals 0.01%.

In a research note, Nomura Securities' economists Sonal Varma and Aurodeep Nandi also lowered the 2024-25 GDP growth forecast from 6.7% to 6%, and also downgraded next year's growth prospects to 5.9% from 6.8% projected earlier. The update comes in the wake of GDP growth tumbling to 5.4% in the July to September quarter (Q2), from 6.7% in the first quarter of this fiscal year.

"Slowing consumption and investment growth amid tepid government spending suggest that domestic growth engines are sputtering," the economists said.

The Nomura India Composite Leading Index points to the start of a longer cyclical slowdown, they noted.

"The moderation reflects a mix of transient factors like a long-drawn monsoon, a pre-festive demand lull and a struggling pace of public capex, which should reverse, as well as more endemic factors such as the ebbing of post-pandemic pent-up demand, slowing income growth, the RBI's macroprudential tightening and weak private capex," they averred.

Power usage rose 5% to 125.44 billion units in Nov.

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India's power consumption rose 5.14% to 125.44 billion units (BU) in November as compared with the year-ago month.

In November 2023, electricity consumption was 119.30 GW, according to the government data.

The highest supply in a day (peak power demand met) also rose marginally to 207.42 GW in November 2024 from 204.56 GW in the year-ago period.

The peak power demand touched an all-time high of about 250 GW in May this year.

The previous all-time high peak power demand of 243.27 GW was recorded in September 2023.

From 31-month low in October, credit growth may pick up

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

After slowing to a 31-month low uptick of 11.5% in October, non-food credit is expected to recover a tad in coming months to register a 11% to 14% uptick through 2024-25, but this will still remain sharply lower than the 20.2% growth recorded last year, economists at two leading public sector banks said.

While the central bank's regulatory crackdown on non-banking finance companies' credit and unsecured lending was reflected in a slowdown in retail and services sector lending, housing, education and vehicle loans also moderated, said Bank of Baroda economist Aditi Gupta. Credit to industry was a tad higher than last October at 7.9%, but still marked the lowest growth in six months. For medium and large enterprises credit growth improved year-on-year to 19.6% and 6%, respectively, in October, while credit to micro and small enterprises grew just 10%, the slowest this fiscal year and more than half the 16.5% rise recorded last October. SBI economists reckon credit and deposit growth this year will be in the range of 11% to 12%.

Ms. Gupta expects credit growth to improve in the next few months as government capex and festive demand may fuel an economic recovery, and consumption could improve as inflation recedes.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PWD CIRCLE KOTA
No. 1653 Date:- 22.11.2024
Notice Inviting Bid
(NIT No. 11/2024-25)
Bid for Construction of Schedule Tribe Boys Hostel in District Kota (Capacity 75 Students) is Invited from interested bidders up to 06.00 PM of 19.12.2024 (Thursday). Other Particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rj.nic.in) of the Rajasthan State. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs 365.70 Lacs.
UBN No.- PWD2425WSOB10643
(R.K. Soni)
Superintending Engineer
P.W.D. Circle Kota
DIPR/C/11917/2024

E-mail:- sejjn.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in
Office of the Superintending Engineer PWD Circle Jhunjhunu
No. 1524-26 Date: 25/11/24
NOTICE INVITING BID
Bids for 03 Nos. work of Road/Building work **(NIT 07/2024-25 dated 25.11.2024)** in Jhunjhunu Distt. are invited from interested bidder from dated 26.11.2024 to 16.12.2024 upto 05.00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in)** of the state; and pwd.rajasthan.gov.in department website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 1083.18 lacs.
UBN - PWD2425WLOB10674
PWD2425WSOB10675
PWD2425WSOB10676
Superintending Engineer
PWD Circle Jhunjhunu
DIPR/C/11931/2024

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd. Office: PSEB head office, The Mall Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity No.: UP0109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact No. 96461-01116)
Tender Enquiry No. 09/GC/TS/PSPCL/2024-25 **Dated: 02.12.2024**
Dy. CE/ Grid Construction, opp. PAU Gate No.1, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites open e-Tender for outsourcing of Augmentation of Power Transformers related works on partial turnkey mode under RDSS Scheme under Grid Construction Division Bathinda under Grid Construction Circle Ludhiana. For detailed NIT and Tender Specifications please refer to **http://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 02.12.2024 (1.00 PM onwards).
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at **http://eproc.punjab.gov.in**.
C-899/24 76155/12/3698/2023/39717

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture,
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara
Bommanahalli Zone, Bengaluru
No: SADH(S)TENDER/07/2024-25 **Dated: 02.12.2024**
LETTER OF INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) (STD KW-1, KW-2, KW-3 & KW-4)
(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture Bommanahalli Zone, (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites Tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/ Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Development of Parks.

Sl No	Name of the Work/Category
1	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility, Borewell Digging and other Civil works in HSR Layout parks in Bommanahalli Zone. (Call-3) (Others) **Estimate Cost: Rs.350.00 Lakhs, EMD Amout: 5,25,000/-**

Calendar of Events: **(1)** Date of Notification is **02.12.2024.** **(2)** Tender can be downloaded from **04.12.2024.** **(3)** Pre bid meeting **06.12.2024** at **11:30** am. **(4)** Tender Closing date **11.12.2024** at **4:30** pm **(5)** Technical Bid Opening Date **12.12.2024** at **11:30** am. **(6)** Financially Bid Opening Date After approval of Technical Bid.
Sd/-
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Bommanahalli Zone), BBMP Bengaluru

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS - TIRUPATI
MARKETING DEPARTMENT **e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**
e-Tenders are invited for supply of **65,00,000 Numbers of Large Cloth Paper bags (Cotton bag with butter paper)** through e-tenders to the Marketing Department, T.T.Devasthanams. For Tender Notice and tender details log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org** and **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in**. For further details contact Phone Numbers: **0877-2264079, 2264555**, Fax No.**0877-2264554**.
TTD-40021(31)/1/2024-PRO SEC (Adv.No.247) Date:02-12-2024 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited
Regd. Office: Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003, Telangana, India CIN:U40109TG1997PLC028483
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)
Dept-HOD, HR & ADMIN GATP, Goindwal Sahib, invites E-Tender for the work of:

1	**Tender Enquiry No. 004**/GATP/HRADMIN/50006998 dated 02/12/2024 "FACILITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES" at 2X270 MW Guru Amardas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Distt.: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications for a period of One year'

For detailed NIT & tender specifications, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 02/12/2024 from 17:00 Hrs onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
GATP-03/24 **76155/12/3702/2023/39723**

KMML The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam 691583
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 217 e-mail: md@kmml.com
GLOBAL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF COMPETENT BIDDERS TO IMPLEMENT REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED LAND WITH ACIDITY
EOI: Ref No. TP/ENV/EOI LR/01 Date: 02.12.2024
KMML desires to assess the suitability of potential bidders who have technology and capability to do the remediation of land contaminated with acidity and to bring pH to the neutral level. Bidders can download the EOI by visiting our website www.kmml.com. Corrigendum to the EOI (if any) will be published on our website only.
Sd/-
Chavara 02.12.2024 Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(Regd. Office PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in (Contact number 9646117607)
Tender Inquiry No. 91/GHTP/MM-II/HM-50(IX) **Dated 29-11-2024**
Superintending Engineer/MM-II/GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat invites E-tender for the work of "AMC for Routine, Preventive and Breakdown maintenance of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery, i.e. Loco Shunters, Bulldozers including, Grabber Loader Machines, Poclain, Auger and Coal Compactor etc. AND Re-railment of minor derailments of Wagons & Loco Shunters in CHP of GHTP, Lehra-Mohabbat as per tender specifications.
For detailed NIT & tender specifications please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 03-12-2024 at 11:00 AM onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum if any, will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** only.
GHTP-96/24 **76155/12/3700/2023/39719**

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(Yermarus Thermal Power Station)
(Joint venture of KPCL and BHEL)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582
(TWO COVER SYSTEM - THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)
RPCL invites bids through GoK e-Procurement Platform **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from reputed bidders for the following: **(01)** KPCL/2024-25/IND1246/Call-4,Dated: 28.11.2024. **Name of the work:** Supply of 5,760 KL of HFO IS-1593-1982 through railway BTPN Wagons required for YTPS for the year 2024-25. Last date and time for bids submission: 18.12.2024 @ 14:30 hrs. **(02)** KPCL/2024-25/AUCTION57, Dated: 25.11.2024. **Auction Title:** Sale of mill reject waste coal on 'As is where is and as & when generated basis from Silo points/Mill bay area at YTPS for a period of one year. **EMD: Rs. 10,12,200/-.** Last date and time for bids submission: 07.12.2024 upto 17:30 hrs. Further details can be obtained from the **Executive Engineer (M-2), RPCL, YTPS,** Yermarus - 584 134, Raichur Dist. Mob: 94806 82547.

TBILISI

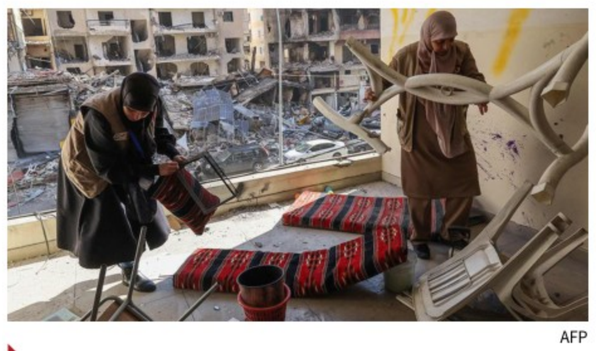
Georgia PM vows 'no negotiations' amid mass pro-EU demonstrations

AFP

Georgia Prime Minister Irakli Kobakhidze on Monday vowed no negotiations with the Black Sea country's opposition, as thousands took to the streets of Tbilisi to protest his decision to shelve talks on joining the EU. He claimed that the protests were "funded from abroad" and vowed that "there will be no revolution in Georgia." AFP

BEIRUT

Lebanon claims Israel violated truce, killed two in new air strike



AFP

At least two persons were killed on Monday in Israeli strikes on southern Lebanon, Lebanese authorities said, as a ceasefire ending more than a year of hostilities between Israel and Lebanese armed group Hezbollah appeared increasingly fragile. Lebanon and Israel had already traded accusations of breaches. REUTERS

KATHMANDU

Nepal govt. accepts $20 million grant assistance from China

AFP

The Nepal government has accepted projects worth $20 million as grant assistance from China ahead of Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli's first official visit to the country after assuming office for the fourth time. Mr. Oli broke away from the tradition of new Nepal Prime Ministers making India their first official destination. PTI

ISLAMABAD

Court issues arrest warrants for Imran Khan, his wife and 94 others

AFP

An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan on Monday issued non-bailable arrest warrants for jailed former Prime Minister and PTI leader Imran Khan, his wife Bushra Bibi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur and 93 others in a case related to last week's protests in Islamabad by his party supporters. PTI

Biden pardons son Hunter despite past pledges not to

President's pardon covers 'offences against the U.S.' which Hunter has committed or 'may have committed or taken part in during the period from January 1, 2014 through December 1, 2024'

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden pardoned his son, Hunter, sparing the younger Mr. Biden a possible prison sentence for federal felony gun and tax convictions and reversing his past promises not to use the extraordinary powers of the presidency for the benefit of his family.

The Democratic President had previously said he would not pardon his son or commute his sentence after convictions in the two cases in Delaware and California. The move on Sunday night comes weeks before Hunter Biden was set to receive his punishment after his trial conviction in the gun case and guilty plea on tax charges.

Family first: The U.S. President's decision comes weeks before Hunter Biden was set to receive his punishment. REUTERS

It caps a long-running legal saga for the younger Mr. Biden, who publicly disclosed he was under federal investigation in December 2020.

In a statement released on Sunday evening, Mr. Biden said, "I believe in the justice system, but as I have wrestled with this, I also believe raw politics has infected this process and it led to a miscarriage of justice."

The President's sweeping pardon covers not just the gun and tax offences against the younger Mr. Biden, but also any other "offences against the United States which he has committed or may have committed or taken part in during the period from January 1, 2014 through December 1, 2024."

Gaza situation is 'appalling, apocalyptic', says UN chief

Agence France-Presse
CAIRO

The United Nations chief said on Monday the situation in war-torn Gaza was "appalling and apocalyptic", warning conditions faced by Palestinians in the territory may amount to the "gravest international crimes".

In remarks read out on his behalf at a Cairo conference aimed at increasing humanitarian aid, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres asked the international community to "build a foundation for sustainable peace in Gaza".

The war in Gaza broke out when Palestinian militant group Hamas attacked southern Israel on October 7, 2023, resulting in 1,208 deaths. Israel's retaliatory campaign has killed 44,429 people in Gaza.

Shrinking hope: A malnourished Palestinian girl rests on a bed as she receives treatment at a hospital in Deir Al-Balah. REUTERS

"Malnutrition is rampant... Famine is imminent. Meanwhile, the health system has collapsed," he said.

The UN chief added that Gaza now has "the highest number of children amputees per capita anywhere in the world", with "many losing limbs and undergoing surgeries without even anesthesia".

The secretary-general also criticised the severe restrictions on aid delivery, calling the current levels "grossly insufficient".

Israel bombs north Gaza homes, one strike kills 15

Reuters
CAIRO

Israeli forces bombarded houses in overnight attacks in the northern Gaza Strip, including one airstrike that killed at least 15 persons in a home sheltering displaced people in the town of Beit Lahiya, Palestinian medics said on Monday.

The three barely operational hospitals in the area were unable to cope with the wounded from the attack.

Residents said Israeli drones had also dropped bombs outside a school sheltering displaced families in Beit Lahiya, part of what residents have described as a campaign to scare people into leaving.

Taiwan President discusses 'Chinese threats' with Pelosi

Agence France-Presse
HONOLULU

Taiwan President Lai Ching-te discussed "China's military threats" toward the island in a call with former U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on Sunday, drawing criticism from Beijing.

Ms. Pelosi's long-standing support for Taiwan has infuriated China, which responded to her visit to Taipei in 2022 with massive military drills around the island.

Mr. Lai and Ms. Pelosi discussed "China's military threats toward Taiwan", presidential spokeswoman Karen Kuo told reporters, describing the 20-minute call between the "long-time friends" as "warm and amicable".

China has already fumed over more U.S. arms sales to the island and Mr. Lai's stop in Hawaii, where he was welcomed with red carpets, garlands of flowers and "alohas".

In response to Mr. Lai's conversation with Ms. Pelosi, China called on the U.S. to "stop meddling with Taiwan" and cease "supporting and indulging Taiwan independence separatist forces".

At least 56 killed in stampede at Guinea football match resulting from fan clashes

Agence France-Presse
CONAKRY

A stampede at a football match dedicated to Guinea's junta chief killed at least 56 people, the government said on Monday, as the opposition accused the military-led authorities of being "directly responsible" for the tragedy.

Fans at Sunday's game in the second city of N'Zerekore invaded the pitch after one or two players were sent off and a penalty was awarded to the opposing side Labe at the end of the game, witnesses said.

The events had initially been reported as clashes between fans.

Complete mayhem: People scramble in Nzerekore in Guinea after a deadly stampede ensued at a stadium on Sunday. REUTERS

Officials watching the match, including two Ministers, were prevented from leaving, prompting stone throwing and the firing of tear gas by security forces, a witness said.

"Panic quickly set in, leading to an uncontrollable stampede," he said. "People were trampled underfoot or injured as they tried to flee," he added.

The match in the southeastern city was the final of a tournament organised in honour of Guinea's junta leader, General Mamady Doumbouya, who seized power in a 2021 coup and has installed himself as President. The opposition has accused the junta of using sport for political ends.

Past instance

The crackdown on an opposition rally at a stadium in the capital Conakry left at least 156 people dead in 2009, according to a UN-mandated international commission of enquiry.

Iraqi militias enter Syria to reinforce government forces

Reuters
AMMAN/BEIRUT

At least 300 fighters, primarily from the Badr and Nujabaa groups, crossed late on Sunday into Syria

Hundreds of fighters from Iran-backed Iraqi militias crossed into Syria overnight to help the government fight militants who seized Aleppo last week, Syrian and Iraqi sources said on Monday, and Tehran pledged to aid the Damascus government.

At least 300 fighters, primarily from the Badr and Nujabaa groups, crossed late on Sunday using a dirt road to avoid the official border crossing.

Iran's allied militia groups has been integral to the success of pro-government forces in subduing rebels who rose up against President Bashar al-Assad in 2011.

Syrian government and Russian warplanes intensified attacks on Monday in areas held by rebels in the northwest, including a strike on a displaced people's camp that killed seven.

Sport

From gazing at bikes to developing them — the incredible journey of Jagan Kumar

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Timing exit from sports is often tricky for sportspersons, especially those who have enjoyed enduring success. While most hope to bow out on a high, only a few succeed.

Over the last decade and a half, Jagan Kumar has shown clinical efficiency on the race track, competing in the Indian National Motorcycling Championship.

In October, the rider from Chennai managed the perfect bookend to his glittering career when he bowed out of the sport after winning his 11th title.

Heading into the final race of his career, Jagan trailed his TVS teammate K.Y. Ahamed by two points and was ahead of Sarthak Chavan by a similar margin. The equation was simple: whoever wins the race would emerge champion. As Ahamed and Sarthak were battling among themselves on the last lap, it allowed Jagan to pass them on the final corner to clinch the Pro-Stock 165cc title for a staggering 10th time.

Riding into the sunset: Jagan managed the perfect bookend to his glittering career, winning his 11th title. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"When I started, I wanted to win one title. Then, once I got three, I wanted five as a whole number but never thought I would win seven consecutive titles or 10 overall (Pro-Stock 130-165cc)," said Jagan in a chat with *The Hindu* recently.

"It has been a big journey. I have been lucky to be part of TVS racing. I used to gaze at a TVS Apache bike at Spencer Plaza. From there, god has been kind to me to help develop the same bikes and feature in an ad for it," adds the 36-year-old, who once delivered newspapers and couriers to fund his career before setting the tracks ablaze.

Though he has hung up his helmets, Jagan will continue to be part of the TVS family, doing R&D work and will be involved in driver development and coaching.

"I had to learn by making mistakes, which took a lot of time. There is a big list of what one shouldn't do. I know some things that I couldn't implement, but these youngsters can do them. It is important that they can do these things when they are the right age and at their peak. It would have made a huge difference if I had known these things during my peak."

"If I can help them, they can reach the next level easily without thinking much. With the right training, a four-year development can be crunched to 1.5 years," says Jagan.

'I look to back my strengths'

Vivek Krishnan
INDORE

Ravi Bishnoi isn't exactly a conventional leg-spinner. He runs into the crease on a slight angle, whips through his action and delivers a mix of sliders and googlies. When he bowls the leg-break, the ball is usually quick through the air and takes very little turn.

It is perhaps why the 24-year-old's methods have been quite successful in T20s – a format that is also far from conventional. Numbers say so: In 37 matches for India in the shortest version, he has claimed 56 scalps at an economy of 7.3.

"I just look to bowl in good areas. If you bowl in good areas, it is more difficult to hit. When you try for something extra, that is when runs are leaked," Bishnoi told *The Hindu* after featuring in a Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy game for Gujarat at the Holkar Stadium. "My mindset is simple. I look to bowl at a good spot. If wickets come, it is fine. If they don't come, that is also fine as long as you keep the runs down."

Bishnoi. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Despite his effectiveness, there may be those who are critical of Bishnoi's conservative style of bowling. Has he ever felt the need to change and perhaps give the ball more flight?

"If I was listening to what people say, I would have changed by now. I look to back my strengths," Bishnoi said.

On his exclusion from India's victorious T20 World Cup campaign, he added: "There is nothing better than India winning. I didn't play the World Cup this year, but I can always get an opportunity the next time."

While his T20 credentials are established, Bishnoi is keen on adding to his lone ODI appearance and playing Tests for India too. "I do vary the pace and everything, but I will try to ensure that the areas I hit don't change".

TUNING IN

Australian team hits the ground running even as the Indians rest

GETTY IMAGES

The Australian players did the hard yards at the Adelaide Oval on Monday. With the second Test scheduled to begin on Friday, the hosts had a long training session. Steve Smith and Marnus Labuschagne, both looking for runs, batted in the nets. Meanwhile, Rohit Sharma's men flew in from Canberra and opted to rest.

THUMPING WIN

Amaan's unbeaten century helps India trounce Japan

ACC

Mohamed Amaan scored an unbeaten century, while K.P. Karthikeya and Ayush Mhatre made fifties to hand India a 211-run win over Japan in the Under-19 Asia Cup in Sharjah on Monday. **The scores**: India U-19 339/6 in 50 overs (Amaan 122 n.o., Karthikeya 57, Mhatre 54) bt Japan U-19 128/8 in 50 overs (Kelly 50).

REMARKABLE

Seales' frugal spell gives Windies control in the second Test

AFP

Pacer Jayden Seales conceded only five runs in almost 16 overs (15.5-10-5-4) to give West Indies the advantage over Bangladesh on day two of the second Test at Jamaica. **The scores**: Bangladesh 164 in 71.5 overs (Shadman 64, Mehidy 36, Seales 4/5, Shamar 3/49) vs West Indies 70/1 in 37 overs (Brathwaite 33 batting).

GUNNING FOR GLORY

Nitesh nominated for BWF's Para Badminton Player of the Year Award

REUTERS

India's paralympic champion Kumar Nitesh has been nominated along with three others for the men's Para Badminton Player of the Year, the BWF said on Monday. Nitesh will be competing for the award with two-time Paralympic gold medallists Cheah Liek Hou (SU5) of Malaysia, Japan's Daiki Kajiwara (WH2) and China's Qu Zimo (WH1).

The real contest all set to unfold

Gukesh has displayed greater initiative but defending champ Ding has proved peers wrong so far; action to resume on Tuesday with Game 7

FIDE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SINGAPORE 2024

P.K. Ajith Kumar
SINGAPORE

Ready for action again: A refreshed Gukesh will be keen to get going. FIDE

Reaching the venue of the World chess championship, Equarius Hotel at World Resorts Sentosa, from mainland Singapore involves multiple modes of transport for most people.

To get to the small island Sentosa, which used to be called the island behind which lies death (there is no consensus on the reason behind it, though), you have to take an underground Metro, then a monorail that is way overground, up in the air in fact, and then you have to take a bus, if you don't to walk in the sweltering heat.

The journey of the World championship match, which is approaching its half-way mark, thus far has just been as fascinating. Especially given the circumstances - much of the chess world had been dismissive of the reigning champion Ding Liren's chances and was expecting D. Gukesh to dominate.

The 18-year-old from Chennai has shown more initiative and looked keener for intense battles, but the defending champion has so far been able to prove his peers wrong. He may have been happy to look for a draw in most positions and may have also had a tougher time while handling the pressure from the clock, but he has been solid enough.

Given the contrast in form between the two players, Ding should not be too unhappy with the way things have gone, though he was rather critical of himself in the self-appraisal at the last press conference before Monday's rest day. He spoke of how he slipped from advantageous positions.

Before the match, he had also talked of having to seek professional help for his mental health issues. Doubts had been raised therefore if he would be in the ideal state of mind for the match.

He has looked fine. He was even joking at the press conference about the memes about 'Ding Chillin', after the sixth game.

It was the game in which Gukesh again showed his willingness to take risks, despite having to pay the price for being more aggressive in the opening game. He had lost that game with white pieces, but came back strongly to win the third game to level the scores. It is still all square at 3-3.

Gukesh-Ding match-up is more of a psychological duel

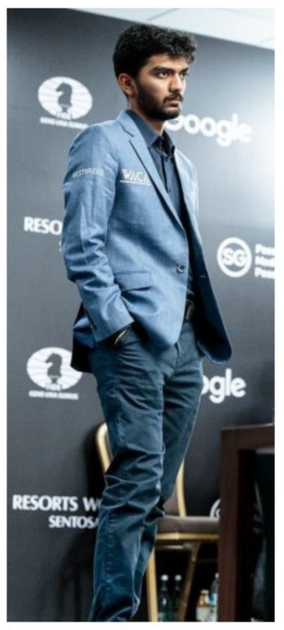
The World championship in Singapore has suddenly taken on the flavour of a psychological duel instead of a purely chess match. In the last few games, we have started to see a very clear trend where Gukesh is trying to provoke his opponent into a battle, is ready to decline draws and take risks. Ding, on the other hand, seems to be pessimistic about his position and often goes for the safest line on the first opportunity, in the hope that Gukesh might overreach.

In Game 6, Ding Liren chose the London System which he had used to great effect in the last World title match against Ian Nepomniachtchi. Gukesh's preparation was excellent until move 16. On the next move, he had a couple of easy ways to make a draw, but chose a slightly inaccurate one that allowed Ding to get the unbalanced position he was presumably seeking.

On the 23rd move, Ding thought for a while, then gave up on his winning attempts, and essentially offered a draw by repetition. Even more surprisingly, given that the position slightly favoured Ding, Gukesh turned down the draw and kept playing. He defended accurately, but seemed to be taking extra risks. They agreed to a draw a few moves later.

In Game 5, Gukesh surprised Ding in the opening, by playing a peaceful variation. This year, the line has been somewhat popular though as people have discovered that it contained some venom. Ding was excellently prepared and equalised very easily.

On the 23rd move, Gukesh made a serious mistake, by not exchanging rooks. Ding went for perhaps the smallest of the three advantages. He could have put the knight on 'a4'



Gukesh. FIDE

or activated his rook first, which would have led to a significant advantage.

He made Gukesh's moves easier to find and then shockingly, took his bishop to the wrong square, captured a pawn and then returned it. The audience was astonished by this. In a game where Gukesh would have had to defend precisely for a long time, he managed to draw within a few moves thanks to Ding's inaccuracy.

Game 4 was a fairly uneventful draw. Ding's opening preparation was not lacking in venom, but he did not follow up with the effort required for the precise play. So with a few natural moves, Gukesh solved all his problems.

It is nice to have the rest day at this point because both sides will need to rework their strategies given that neither seems to be getting his desired positions. Gukesh still hasn't found any chinks in Ding's armour, while the defending champion hasn't been able to take the chances that have come his way in the last few games.

Arjun's 2800 Elo mark: stupendous feat by a stupendous player

P.K. Ajith Kumar
SINGAPORE

That winter evening in Kolkata is fresh in memory.

At the closing ceremony of the Tata Steel Chess India three years ago, the wonderfully articulate Levon Aronian had an explanation why Arjun Erigaisi, just 18 then and nowhere near as well-known as he is now, did not also win the blitz title after winning the rapid.

The Armenian-born American Grandmaster, who won the title after beating the Indian in the tie-breaker, said Arjun was a very strong chess player, but not strong enough physically to carry two cups. The full house at the National Library erupted in laughter.

Later on, during a lengthy interview with *The Hindu* in which he spoke about Indian classical music and Satyajit Ray's films, Aronian said Arjun was going to translate his strength in speed chess to the more demanding classical variety. The boy from Warangal didn't let Aronian down.

Arjun crossed the biggest barrier in chess in the latest rating list released by FIDE. He has touched 2800 Elo points. He is only the second Indian to do it, and the 15th in the history of the game. The first Indian was Viswanathan Anand.

Anand was there in Kolkata too for the Tata event, as the brand ambassador.

Arjun.
FILE PHOTO: DEBASISH BHADURI

He called Arjun a great discovery and new star of Indian chess.

Arjun told this correspondent how much those words meant to him. He had also said that he wasn't getting invitations for stronger tournaments and that was what prevented him from catching up with other Indian prodigies like R. Praggnanandhaa.

That scenario may not have changed, as he has had to gain his Elo points mostly from open tournaments, in which you are likely to come across weaker opponents and risk losing points. But, remarkably, he has risen to be the World No. 4.

"I can't think of another top player who has scored so many Elo points from open tournaments," says Grandmaster Pravin Thipsay.

You may not be able to think of many who could play chess with such creativity and fearlessness, either.

A lot to ponder for Team India in the lead-up to the pink-ball challenge in Adelaide

INDIA IN AUS

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
ADELAIDE

Adelaide ahoy! The Indians will be eager to put their best foot forward in the second Test. ANI

It was a weekend of rain and runs for the Indians at Canberra. The warm-up fixture against the Prime Minister's XI at the Manuka Oval was touted as the ideal base ahead of the second Test here from Friday. A two-day tussle under lights and against the pink ball was also seen as a lens to understand how players were primed for the rest of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series.

In the end, damp skies washed out Saturday's play while a kind sun and floodlights at night ensured a Sunday contest with its facade of a limited overs skirmish but one that had the depth of a Test match. Among India's leading stars, Virat Kohli, Jasprit Bumrah and R. Ashwin, played no role while all the others had their turns either as a batter or bowler.

India won with ease and even tucked into the host's courtesy and batted the full quota of 46 overs much after going past the winning tape. There were these little stories within perhaps a friendly battle. That K.L. Rahul and Yashasvi Jaiswal strode out as openers could be seen as a hat-tip to the combined form they revealed especially during their second outing in the first Test at Perth. But does that mean, a rejig is in order?

With Shubman Gill having recovered from an injury and batting well, he obviously slots in at number three, a position earlier strengthened by the broad willows of Cheteshwar Pujara and Rahul Dravid. If the past is a yardstick, then maybe Rohit will continue teaming up with Jaiswal atop the batting tree and yet the Canberra sojourn and the skipper's meagre three from 11 deliveries, does raise some questions.

The Mumbaikar, all fluid sixes and rapid yields in ODIs, has a lone fifty in his last 10 innings from Tests. To be fair, he did try to dig in on Sunday before chasing one outside the off-stump. Till then Rohit looked his part at the crease. He has always put team over self, and never worries about statistical judgements. It remains to be seen if in the twilight phase of his career, he would go back to the middle-order, counter the old ball and be well set to tackle the new cherry.

Perhaps, with Prithvi Shaw losing his way, in a post-Rohit stage, a Rahul-Jaiswal combine may do the opening honours unless Gill moves up again. There is enough strategy to chew upon for the Indian management over the next few days. That Rohit and Gill are back in the playing eleven with Devdutt Padikkal and Dhruv Jurel making way, is the presumed reality.

Kohli's unbeaten 100 at Perth is a good sign and if Rohit can join forces, India will flourish for the rest of the series. Pushed into the opening slot, Rohit had prospered in Tests, maybe he will still do that against a tough rival unless a middle-order foray is what he and the management are looking at for now.

Hoping for Head(y) days in the immediate future

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
ADELAIDE

Under quirky Adelaide skies, sunny at one point, damp at another, Travis Head always feels at home. Back in his city in the lead-up to the second Test against India from Friday, Head is looking for clues from the past and equally gazing with hope into the immediate future.

In his previous two Tests at the Adelaide Oval, Head was adjudged Player-of-the-Match.

Against India, he held his own in the first Test at Perth while many would recall his hundred in the 2023 ICC World Cup final that deflated Rohit Sharma's men at Ahmedabad. Add to it India's 36 during the 2020 Test here, and Head can surely lean on this rich vein of historical optimism.

But he is acutely conscious of India's strengths quadrupled by Jasprit Bumrah's role as a spearhead. "I am lucky that I have faced him a few times

Home comfort: Head will look to get going again.
FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

and I know what's coming, just need to start well. He is unique. Jasprit is probably going to go down as one of the greatest fast bowlers and it will be nice to tell the grandkids that I faced him," Head told the media here on Monday.

The 295-run loss at Perth has been dealt with and Head elaborated: "We didn't have a very good week but we have got four more opportunities. The writing was on the wall pretty quickly in that Test and we were pushing uphill."

For the southpaw, the pink ball in the day and night Test here, is no threat: "It's still a game of cricket. It's just a pink ball coming down, you face it in the same way and you have got to react to it the same way."

Admitting that the injured Josh Hazlewood will be missed, Head was quick to praise the reserve strength: "Josh is a huge loss but we have got some pretty good stocks in the sheds with Scott (Boland), Sean (Abbott) and (Brendan) Doggett".

INBRIEF

Man City boss Guardiola has a friendly reminder

Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola reminded Liverpool fans of his six Premier League titles in the past seven seasons after he was taunted towards the end of Sunday's 0-2 defeat at Anfield.

The results: LaLiga: Real Sociedad 2 (Llorente 14-og, Oyarzabal 31-pen) bt Real Betis 0.
Serie A: Lecce 1 (Rebic 90+3) drew with Juventus 1 (Cambiaso 68).

Jamshedpur eases past Mohammedan in ISL

Jamshedpur FC downed Mohammedan SC 3-1 in an ISL fixture in Jamshedpur on Monday.

The result: Jamshedpur FC 3 (Sanan 53, Siverio 61, Eze 79) bt Mohammedan SC 1 (Irshad 88).

Bangalore 2000 Guineas advanced from Dec. 14 to 13

The Stewards of the Bangalore Turf Club have decided to advance the Bangalore 2000 Guineas from 9th day Saturday, 14th December to 8th day Friday, 13th December, 2024.

LIVE TELECAST

SMAT: JioCinema, 9 a.m.
U-19 Asia Cup: Sony Sports Ten 3, 5 & LIV, 10.30 a.m.
Chess: World championship, Chessbase India YouTube channel, 2.30 p.m.
Zimbabwe vs Pakistan: 2nd T20I, FanCode, 5 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.
West Indies vs Bangladesh: 2nd Test, day 4, FanCode, 8.30 p.m.
LaLiga: gxr.world, 11.30 p.m.

Australian diplomat has a chat with para athletes

Deputy High Commissioner McCaffrey stresses on resilience to cope with defeat and come back; Indian stars Tarun and Nidhi recall journey, and say a lot more needs to be done

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

The Australian Deputy High Commissioner, Nicholas McCaffrey, stressed on the "resilience to cope with defeat and come back stronger", as he engaged in a sporting conversation with para athletes Nidhi Mishra and Tarun Dhillon at the Australian High Commission here on Monday.

The idea was to strengthen the focus to support para athletes, thoughtfully planned on the eve of the International Day of persons with Disabilities.

Food for thought: Nicholas McCaffrey, flanked by para athletes Nidhi and Tarun, makes a point during a discussion in New Delhi on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

PCI CEO Rahul Swami said India had signed an agreement to host the World Para Athletics Championships, for further strengthening the bond of support for persons with different abilities

Para athletes Tarun Dhillon and Nidhi Mishra were brilliant in expressing their thoughts

Collaboration

The Deputy High Commissioner reiterated the collaboration between Australia and India, on a wide range of sports, in the run up to the Brisbane Olympics in 2032.

Para athletes, Asian gold medallist Tarun Dhillon and bronze medallist Nidhi Mishra, were brilliant in expressing their thoughts, as they acknowledged the growing support for para sports, and that "a lot more needs to be done", particularly for women athletes, in terms of having friendly and safe sports space.

Visualisation

"I believe in the magic of visualisation," said Tarun, while Nidhi said that it was the "burning desire to excel in sports" that drove her to great heights, even as both highlighted that sports had given them everything including the identity.

Easy transition

Tarun said that before injuring his knee, he had trained as a normal cricketer at the same club as Virat Kohli, and that it was easy for him to transition into the world of the para sports in badminton.

He went on to win the World Championship gold as a 19-year-old, and subsequently made it to the Paralympics in Paris.

Nidhi, a professor of history with a doctorate, said that diminishing vision had driven her to para athletics, and lamented the fact that she did not get leave to train for making the Indian team for the Paris Paralympics.

"We need to prioritise sports," said Nidhi.

Expressing her admiration for Australian athletes, Nidhi said, "like we have military training, we should have training with Australians in sports".

Tarun said that it was the love for sports that defined his career and pointed out, "play sports for the love of it".

Nidhi, on the other hand, emphasised on the need for stringent laws in dealing with the culprits for crime against women.

Accessible space

"We don't need separate sporting facilities. We need escalators and ramps in the normal sports facilities. We just need accessible space for sports," Nidhi said.

The CEO of Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), Rahul Swami said that India had signed an agreement to host the World Para Athletics Championships, for further strengthening the bond of support for persons with different abilities.

Haryana boys enter the quarterfinals

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Haryana boys defeated Chandigarh 105-94 in a Group-B match to make it to the quarterfinals of the National youth basketball on Monday.

Important results: Level 1: Boys: Group A: Telangana 77 (Sai Dhairya Mani 19, Dhruv Boppana 14, Aadvik Reddy 13, Reyhan Ellore 10) bt Tamil Nadu 57 (Yadesh Kumar 15, Aakash 11, U.S. Sujeeth 10); **Group B:** Haryana 105 bt Chandigarh 94; Rajasthan 101 bt Kerala 75; Uttar Pradesh 69 bt Punjab 59.
Girls: Group A: Rajasthan 62 (Kritika Khatik 22, Jaya Dadhich 16, Divyanshi Sharma 12) bt Madhya Pradesh 57 (Ayushi Yadav 16, Vaishnavi Gupta 13, Bhoomi Prakash 10); Tamil Nadu 80 (A. Jefrin 18, Sumitra Devi 15, Angelina Arun George 15, P. Bhavani 11) bt Maharashtra 47 (Reva Kulkarni 13); Uttar Pradesh 67 (Anshika Sharma 32, Pragya Singh 14) bt Rajasthan 65 (Samiksha Kesvani 16, Kritika Khatik 12, Jaya Dadich 11, Divyanshi Sharma 10); Maharashtra 57 (Reya Kulkarni 25, Pranitha 17) bt Uttar Pradesh 35 (Pragya Singh 10).
Group B: Karnataka 92 (Adi Subramanian 23) bt Gujarat 37; Punjab 71 bt Haryana 28; Kerala 69 bt Haryana 50.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Tanshh slams unbeaten 225

Tanshh Krishna (225 n.o.) powered The Sports School past Holy Cross School in the B.T. Ramaiah Shield Division II under-14 inter-school cricket tournament.
The scores: The Sports School 374/2 in 50 overs (Athreya Bhat 89, Tanshh Krishna 225 n.o., N. Mayur 26 n.o.) bt Holy Cross 101 in 28.4 overs (Y. Ishaanth 37, Alok 4/14, Raghav Kumar 3/25).
Little Flower 200 in 47.4 overs (K.A. Krishna 68, Gaurav 47, Nishanth Amberkar 3/35) lost to Bethany 201/9 in 41.2 overs (Nishanth Amberkar 43, Neev Bhattacharjee 36 n.o., Shivanth 5/44).
Presidency (Nandini Layout) 149 in 39.5 overs (Rohan Rajashekara 57, Shreejith 27 n.o.) lost to Kensri 150/4 in 27.3 overs (Saatvik Reddy 45, Mitansh Singh 48, Bhofinn Sanjeevareddy 38).

Easy for BTM

BTM FC blanked RWF 4-0 in the BDFA 'B' division football league semifinal.

Ashish Limaye of EIRS won the Knock Out feature event of 14th Equestrian Premier League, hosted by EIRS in Bengaluru.

The results: Semifinals: BTM 4 (Aayush David 10, Mugilan 22, M. Yogesh 40, V. Sanju 40) bt RWF 0; Roots 1 (G. Pranjal 5) drew with FC Deccan 1 (Santhosh Singh 52) won 6-5 on penalties.